

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

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### BIRTHS.

On the 5th November, at 1, Queen's Gardens, the wife of Mr. ARNOLD FUCHS, of a daughter.

At Breezy Point, on the 5th inst., the wife of DONALD MACDONALD, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 23rd October, 1897, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., the Rev. T. HOWARD MITH, of the London Mission, Peking, to MARY, second daughter of Edwin BURTON, Esq., of Darlington, Sydney.

At 6, Yuen-ming-yuen Buildings, Shanghai, on the 1st November, ELIZABETH BALLET, the beloved wife of A. G. MERRILEES, of the Statistical Department of the Imperial Maritime Customs, aged 50 years.

On the 6th November, at the Peak Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., TOM EDWARD GRIFFITH, of Canton, third son of WILLIAM GRIFFITH, of "Brincliffe," Sheffield, to ELTA, youngest daughter of the late D. R. CALDWELL, of Hongkong.

### DEATHS.

At Hankow, on the 20th October, 1897, M. A. JENKINS.

At the Peak Hospital, on the 4th inst., GERALD SLADE, only son of Major-General SLADE, aged 46 years.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 8th October arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 7th November (30 days); and the American mail of the 12th October arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 8th November (27 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

We understand, says the *Japan Times*, that the Navigation bounties estimated at 5 million yen for the current fiscal year will be increased to above 8 million yen for the next year. If the sum increases at this rate, the total will reach more than 12 million yen the year after next.

At Shanghai on the 3rd November the Japanese and French men-of-war in the River decorated in honour of the Japanese Emperor's birthday, while the British warships were flying the White Ensign at half-mast owing to the lamented death of the Duchess of Teck. The contrast was noted by some of the local papers as "rather curious."

In the action of the steamer *Melpomene* v. steamer *Patroclus*, tried in the British Court at Yokohama, judgment has been reserved.

According to the *N. C. Daily News* a telegram has been received at Shanghai from Peking stating definitely that the negotiations for the loan of sixteen million pounds sterling have been concluded with the Jameson Hooley Syndicate, and that the contract has been signed.

It is a fact not generally known, says the *China Gazette*, that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has advanced the whole of the money required by the French Municipality at Shanghai for the construction of the new waterworks, the big Bank's terms being more favourable than the Municipality could obtain elsewhere.

The Japanese Government having been impressed with the serious inconvenience to the Japanese and foreign public through the constant interruption of the telegraph cable between Formosa and China, has decided to commence the repair of the line. The Formosan Governor-General has applied to the Finance Department for a special appropriation of 10,000 yen towards the cost.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

According to the *China Gazette*, formal application has been made to the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai by Messrs. Bennertz & Co. for clearance papers for the steamers *Woosung* and *Kiangnin*, the first for Vancouver (!) the *Kiangnin* for the Yantze. So far no answer has been received from the Customs authorities, who are understood to be "consulting" with the higher Chinese authorities on this very delicate matter.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 1st November says:—H.E. Sheng and staff went down to Woosung on Saturday to inspect the work of the railway. This work appears to be progressing rapidly, but cannot always be seen from the old roadway, which so far as possible is left untouched so as not to interfere with pedestrian traffic. Even close to the boundary of the Settlement much work has been done in laying down the new railway, which leaves entirely the old roadway a mile from the boundary and follows a course through the fields.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 4th inst. says:—It appears that H.E. Sheng has had to leave earlier than intended for Wuchang, the date actually fixed for the trip there having been the 6th inst. This was owing to the receipt of certain telegrams from Peking in consequence of which H.E. and a large staff left four days earlier, namely on Tuesday morning. H.E. will first visit H.E. Viceroy Chang at Wuchang and then cross over to Hankow to break the first sod of the Hankow-Peking Railway. H.E.'s stay at the River ports will not last more than a fortnight, after which he returns to Shanghai.

The interport cricket week started on Monday in a manner most disastrous to Hongkong, who were easily beaten by the Straits Settlements by an innings and 78 runs. The Straits batsmen played an exceedingly good game and knocked the Hongkong bowling all over the ground, scoring altogether 413, while Hongkong made 216 in their first innings and 118 in their second. There is no doubt the better team won and they are to be heartily congratulated upon scoring such a signal victory. To-day and to-morrow Shanghai play the Straits and on Friday and Saturday Shanghai play Hongkong.

Applications for the second part of the issue of the Singapore four per cent. Municipal Loan of \$500,000 closed on Saturday, 30th October. The issue, which consists of \$100,000 in 1,000 mortgages of \$100 each, was subscribed more than twice over. The subscribers at par will get about half, but tenders under par will get nothing. Practically the whole of the loan has been subscribed in the Straits and Malaya.—*Straits Times*.

A Chu'angsha, Hunan, despatch reports the death in that city on the 11th October of H.E. Yang Ch'ang-chun, late Viceroy of the Shen-Kan provinces, at the age of seventy-two years. The deceased was formerly also Viceroy of the Min-Ché provinces and was a protégé of the late Marquis Tso, who was also his fellow-townsmen. It will be remembered that through the vacillating policy of the deceased ex-Viceroy in 1895, the Mahomedan population of Kansu rose in rebellion that year, and the outbreak was only crushed last winter at the cost of nearly 20 million taels and the loss of over 160,000 lives, only three-tenths of whom were soldiers.—*N. C. Daily News*.

In the Shanghai Municipal Hall on the 4th November a large and representative body of residents of both sexes assembled to participate in a reception in celebration of the Rev. Wm. Muirhead's jubilee of missionary work. Mr. Cornelius Thorne delivered an address of considerable length, presenting Dr. Muirhead with a reading lamp of handsome workmanship and a chair specially adapted for reading purposes, a silver plate on the book stand bearing a suitable inscription. The illuminated address presented to Dr. Muirhead some weeks ago on the fiftieth anniversary of his landing in Shanghai was also read, and an enlarged portrait of the venerable gentleman was presented to Mr. Welch as representing the Municipal Council. Dr. Muirhead in a knowledge of the presentation delivered a lengthy and touching address.—*Mercury*.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, whose death is recorded by *Enter*, was formerly Minister to Japan and afterwards to China. His record as given in "Men and Women of the Time" is as follows:—Alcock, Sir Rutherford, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.C.S., is the son of Dr. Thomas Alcock, and was born in 1809, and educated for the medical profession. He was on the medical staff of the British Auxiliary Forces in Spain in support of Isabella II., against the Carlists, and in Portugal in support of Maria II., against the Miguelists; and for his services in the Peninsula received honours and decorations from the English, the Spanish, and the Portuguese Governments. Subsequently he was consul at Foochow (1844); at Shanghai (1846); and at Canton (1858). Thence he was transferred to the diplomatic service, and became envoy extraordinary, minister plenipotentiary, and consul-general in Japan. Sir Rutherford Alcock was created K.C.B. in 1862; and in 1865 was transferred to Peking as Chief Superintendent of Trade in China, and remained there till 1870. He is the author of "Notes on the Medical History of the British Legion in Spain," 1838; "Elements of Japanese Grammar," 1861; "The Capital of the Tycoon," 1863; and "Familiar Dialogues in Japanese," 1878. In 1876 he was President of the Royal Geographical Society, and in 1882 presided over the health department of the Social Science Congress.



### A GOLD CURRENCY FOR SINGAPORE AND HONGKONG.

The Committee of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce appointed to consider the currency question have arrived at a wise decision in recommending the adoption of the gold standard and the degradation of the dollar to the position of a token coin. Silver has ceased to be a stable measure of value or reliable currency medium, and trade conducted with that metal as a basis necessarily partakes largely of the character of gambling. Its unsuitability is demonstrated by the fact that in silver using countries the foreign trade has to be conducted virtually on a gold basis, contracts being made, not for so many dollars clean, but for so many dollars at such and such a rate of exchange. It would simplify matters if the amounts were stated plainly in the first instance at so many pounds sterling. The adoption of a common currency unit for the whole empire would greatly facilitate trade and it will probably not be long now before that desirable consummation is brought about. India, Ceylon, and the Straits will fall into line with Great Britain and the Australian colonies, and though there is perhaps not much likelihood of Canada abandoning the dollar unit for the sovereign still the dollar is a gold one and always good for a fraction over four shillings and a penny. Hongkong may for a time elect to hang on to the skirts of China in the matter of its currency, instead of marching boldly with the British empire, under the mistaken impression that it is furthering its own commercial interests thereby, but silver is steadily sinking under our feet and we will soon have no choice but to abandon it. The sooner the plunge is made the less it will cost. Dollars do not seem any easier to come by than they used to be, and when they are with difficulty obtained they melt away in value with the course of exchange. It would be well to make the conversion before they melt further.

There can be little doubt, we think, that the Straits community will adopt the recommendations of the Chamber of Commerce Committee, that the local Government will readily fall in with the scheme, and that the home Government will accord its sanction. A currency that is not good enough to serve as a measure of the salaries of the public servants of a state is not good enough for the operations of trade and commerce. Not only have the Straits, like Hongkong, had for some time past to pay "exchange compensation" to officials of English domicile, but they have now had to grant a special allowance to the public servants of local domicile on account of the increased cost of living, in other words, owing to the decreased purchasing power of silver. This is termed a temporary allowance, but if the currency were not converted there can be little doubt the allowance would become permanent and disappear only with a straightforward increase of salaries. In Hongkong a similar measure has not yet been adopted, partly on account of the difficulty of balancing the budget, and partly, perhaps, because the pinch has not yet been quite so acutely felt here as in the Straits, but on all hands complaints are heard amongst the native population of the dearness of commodities, wages are going up, and the Government like private employers will have to adapt itself to the altered conditions. The most satisfactory method of adaptation would be to pay in a coin that offered some probability of being worth as much next week as this week. As for the silver dollar, even the

Banks are going back on it and decline to settle exchange forward except at very stiff rates—or perhaps it would be more correct to call them flabby rates.

If Hongkong waits for China it is possible that the conversion of the currency may have to be effected at one and sixpence or even a shilling to the dollar, and whatever the exact rate may be it is very certain that it will be much below the rate at which the conversion could be effected to-day. When Japan announced her decision to adopt the gold standard it was said that the change would not have much effect on the value of silver, that Japan had not been absorbing much silver anyway, and that what little effect the change might otherwise have exercised had been fully discounted during the progress of the discussion. This was the view put forward by sanguine friends of the white metal, and for a time it seemed to prevail, but as soon as the operation came near enough to be correctly focussed the rate of exchange fell rapidly. Other explanations had then to be found for this singular conduct on the part of silver, and it was said to be due to large sales by timid holders. But what made the holders timid? Simply the realisation of the fact that another prop had been removed, that the metal was losing its value and that the best thing to be done with holdings was to sell them for what they would fetch. When props are many one or two may be removed here and there without greatly endangering the superstructure, but when only a few remain the removal of each additional one, even though in itself a small one, will have an increasingly weakening effect. The Straits have perhaps not been a very important market for silver as compared with some others, but under existing circumstances the colony's abandonment of the white metal is calculated to have a depressing effect on the course of exchange and may possibly cause as serious a drop as did Japan's conversion scheme.

### THE TRADE OF INDIA WITH CHINA AND JAPAN.

In the Review of the Trade of India for 1896-97 just published by the Statistical Bureau of the Government of India, some interesting particulars of the trade between that country and China and Japan are set out. The figures given are very instructive, and show, in a striking manner, how much more rapidly the trade with the little island empire is developing. That with the vast empire of China is practically stationary, if not declining, while that with Japan has increased more than threefold in six years. Turning first to the returns for China, we find that the value of the imports for the year under notice was Rs. 21,490,890 as compared with Rs. 28,058,580 in 1895-96, while that of the exports was Rs. 136,819,250 as compared with Rs. 137,781,030 in the preceding year. The principal articles of import from China all show a tendency to decline, with the one exception, curiously enough, of tea, which has latterly increased. The following are the figures for the past five years:—

	Raw Silk	Silk Goods	Tea	Copper	Sugar
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892-93	7,250,250	6,290,120	3,843,230	1,200,620	4,755,220
1893-94	10,720,160	6,336,760	4,755,520	3,223,810	5,133,200
1894-95	8,990,650	5,478,160	3,282,500	1,367,610	2,851,100
1895-96	9,383,340	6,264,830	4,105,640	1,290,780	2,661,900
1896-97	6,626,400	4,201,070	4,369,430	1,033,600	1,791,510

It is difficult to explain why the trade in silk and silk piece goods has declined, though the latter may perhaps be partly accounted for by the expansion in the demand for Japanese silk goods, which are laid down at very low rates. The decline in the import of sugar is more readily ex-

plainable. It is undoubtedly due to the enormous increase in the import of sugar from Mauritius and the competition of the bounty-fed beet sugar from the Continent of Europe. In 1896-97 the import from Mauritius had increased to 1,666,845 cwt., as compared with 1,078,558 in 1892-93, while the import of beet sugar from Germany stands at 758,806 cwt., compared with 225,788 in 1892-93, and the import from China declined from 349,096 cwt. in 1892-93 to 139,310 cwt. in 1896-97. The Mauritian sugar can still hold its own in competition with the bounty-fed beet sugars, but the China product is evidently in less favour, and is probably less pushed. Yet there ought to be no difficulty in securing a fair share of the demand for this article in India and it is to be hoped that the fall in exchange will enable it to regain some of the ground lost since 1893-94 when the import reached a value of Rs. 5,133,290, considerably more than double that of 1896-97.

Meantime the exports to China barely maintain their former value, the amount in 1896-97 being Rs. 136,819,250 as compared with Rs. 137,781,030 in 1895-96, and Rs. 125,487,250 in 1894-95. The principal items of export are opium, cotton, and cotton yarns, and the following table for the past five years will show the fluctuations in each:—

	OPIUM	COTTON	COTTON
	Rs.	Rs.	YARN
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892-93	73,175,780	1,268,800	62,905,610
1893-94	59,771,950	97,130	44,499,050
1894-95	68,190,760	681,130	51,394,640
1895-96	63,538,180	1,496,920	63,360,620
1896-97	58,800,450	3,938,420	67,624,720

It will be seen that though the value of the opium trade has been fairly maintained, it is slowly on the decline, and will probably exhibit a greater falling off next year, owing to the fresh drop in exchange this year and the increase of the production of Yunnan and Szechuen opium. The first place in the exports to China, so long held by opium, has now being taken by cotton yarns, but whether this export will be long maintained in that position after the starting of the mills in China is problematical. The opium trade will continue to be a considerable one for many years, though it is sure to decrease gradually. This result is inevitable in view of the very much lighter taxation the native drug is called upon to bear in China, and the process of substitution would go on much more rapidly but for the fact that the present race of smokers do not appreciate the flavour of the Chinese opium and will smoke the Indian product at almost any cost.

The tables representing the growth of the Indian trade with Japan are much more satisfactory reading than those with China. The value of the imports has grown from Rs. 657,460 in 1891-92 to Rs. 5,473,560 in 1896-97, and that of the exports from Rs. 12,952,040 in 1891-92 to Rs. 40,942,140 in 1896-97. The report says:—"The trade in silk goods has been actively pushed in Bombay and in Burmah, and the Japanese umbrellas, which have spread over the Far East, have also obtained a place in the Indian market. The imports of coal have also greatly augmented." In illustration of this it is shown that the value of silk goods, which in 1894-95 reached only Rs. 156,610, advanced to Rs. 1,594,490 in 1896-97; umbrellas from Rs. 106,680 to Rs. 219,030, and that of coal from Rs. 122,100 to 836,510. In the exports an equally satisfactory increase in volume and values is also apparent, but it will be seen that the main article, which was formerly cotton yarn, is now raw



cotton. The value of the latter exported to Japan rose from Rs. 1,864,310 in 1889-90 to Rs. 37,603,320 in 1896-97, while that of cotton yarn fell from Rs. 9,790,140 in 1889-90 to Rs. 249,380 in 1896-97. The reason, as is well known, is that Japan now spins her own cotton yarn, and imports a large proportion of the raw cotton for the purpose from India. Among other exports that of indigo has shown a notable increase, its value having risen from Rs. 592,030 to Rs. 2,275,630 in 1896-97. The efforts being made by Japan to promote trade with foreign countries must bear good fruit, and are beginning to show it already. If the Chinese Government took half the same trouble, their foreign trade, which exists rather in spite of them, would very soon exhibit indications of great and needed expansion.

The frontier trade of India with Western China and with Thibet continues to be fluctuating and almost insignificant. In the import trade with Western China, as will be seen by the following figures, there are decided fluctuations, but the export trade shows a fairly steady if limited development:—

YEAR	IMPORTS Rs.	EXPORTS Rs.
1892-93.....	505,320	935,740
1893-94.....	1,372,160	1,341,570
1894-95.....	1,155,060	2,007,450
1895-96.....	869,080	1,380,720
1896-97.....	995,910	2,302,140

It is hoped that this trade may be augmented when the railroad from Mandalay to the Kunlon Ferry has been completed, as it will facilitate intercourse with Yunnan and the Northern Shan States. The whole value of the trade with Thibet for 1896-97 was Rs. 1,958,490 as compared with Rs. 1,549,850 in 1892-93, and is very disproportionate to the efforts made for its development. The trade consists in small imports of a certain number of pack animals, some salt, borax, raw wool, and musk, and the traders return through the passes with some food grain, sugar, cotton piece goods, a small quantity of woollens, tobacco, copper, and iron. The only prospect of expansion seems to be in the import of raw wool, which is now used by the Cawnpore Woollen Mill. The Thibetans, it was hoped at one time, would develop a taste for Indian Tea, but it is probable that the greater cost of carriage still renders the price prohibitive, and the Chinese brick tea maintains its place in the Thibetan markets for the present.

#### THE NEUTRALITY OF SHANGHAI.

In an article on the proposed extension to the Settlement the *N. C. Daily News* urges that Shanghai, though nominally called a British Settlement, has long ceased to have any national distinction and that all the Foreign representatives should unite in their efforts to secure extension, for all will share equally in the benefits. In the course of its argument our contemporary says:—"Its [the Settlement's] value as a place of neutrality has already been shown in a striking manner. During the late war with Japan it was distinctly understood by both belligerents that Shanghai was neutral ground and that nothing must be undertaken in its vicinity that would threaten its safety or peace. In the event of any future difficulty between any European nation and China the precedent already established would doubtless have full sway and Shanghai would remain absolutely neutral territory." We are not sure that it would be well to regard that proposition as even tolerably certain, in the absence of

any express agreement securing neutrality, and even if such an agreement did exist there is always the possibility that under stress of circumstances the agreement might be broken. Even in the case of Japan the undertaking to regard Shanghai as altogether outside the sphere of her operations against China began to be irksome as the war progressed, for the arrangement gave China advantages in the supply of munitions of which she might have been deprived by a blockade or occupation. It was on the representation of England alone that Japan gave the undertaking not to touch Shanghai, and she gave it, not on any ground of principle, but because she considered it to her interest that she should remain on good terms with England. The trade that would be injured by an attack on Shanghai would be principally British trade, and that very fact might in itself constitute an inducement to some European powers, if they were at war with China, to direct an attack on that point, thus giving England an indirect blow while ostensibly aiming only at China. At the time of the Tonkin war considerable apprehension of a blockade of Shanghai by France was entertained, and France never gave any indication that she would not have considered such a measure well within her rights had she chosen to enter upon it. In the event of England going to war with China a British occupation of Shanghai would seem to be almost a necessity for the protection of the large interests we possess there, and if such an occupation could be considered as covered by the belligerent rights of England other nations might argue that, whether their material interests in the place were large or small, their belligerent rights were the same. It would be from every point of view an advantage if the neutrality of Shanghai could be regarded as absolutely secure, but the fact that the Chinese maintain forts at Woosung indicates that they conceive they may be attacked there, and in addition they have their most important arsenal in the neighbourhood, which it would be folly to maintain there if it would have to be shut up as soon as war broke out, just at the time when the establishment would be most essential to China. If the place is to be neutral not only must it be free from attack, but it must also cease to be used as a base of supplies. In the China-Japan war only the first of these conditions was fulfilled and it was the one-sided nature of the arrangement that made it irksome to Japan, which country would not be likely to enter into a similar arrangement in any future complications unless terms were also imposed upon China. The precedent quoted by our contemporary cannot therefore be looked upon as of binding force. In fact Shanghai, in the event of war between China and any other Power, would be exposed to grave risk. Very strong efforts would naturally be made to secure its neutrality, but the success of those efforts is entirely problematical.

#### THE INTERPORT SHOOTING MATCH.

##### SHANGHAI'S SCORE.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Shanghai, 8th November.

In the Interport Shooting Match Shanghai fired to-day. The score was 860.

Singapore fired on the 29th October and scored 934.

Hongkong fires on Thursday next.

#### CHINESE COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

The disturbance in the import market caused by the recent violent fall in exchange has put the honesty of some of the Chinese dealers, who have neglected to cover themselves, to a severe test. It was foreseen months ago, when the big drop set in, that there was trouble ahead, for the foreign importers understood the character of the men with whom they were dealing and the conditions of the trade sufficiently well to read aright the signs of the times. On the whole the trouble has been perhaps less than was anticipated and hardly seems to justify the attacks that have been made upon the reputed honesty of Chinese merchants as a class. This reputed honesty, however, is mainly a matter of prudence; the Chinese merchant is not honest for honesty's sake, but because dishonesty if discovered means "loss of face," and "face" is too valuable an asset to the merchant to be lightly sacrificed. The average Chinaman will go as far as he dare in getting the better of those with whom he deals, but will usually accept with equanimity such losses as custom imposes upon him and a repudiation of which would involve "loss of face." When he cannot do this he usually "disappears," or attempts to do so. Messrs. NOEL, MURRAY & Co., in their piece goods trade report dated Shanghai, 28th October, say:—"It must be admitted, however, that the dealers have had an unprecedented combination of circumstances to contend against, which bids fair to knock some of the gilt off the much vaunted integrity of the Celestial as a merchant. They are all right in fair weather, and with a favourable breeze go along swimmingly, but now they have got into a tight place their true character shows up, and quite justifies the remark made by a prominent importer of long standing, that the class of men we deal with is deteriorating. This has undoubtedly come about by the spirit of gambling that has been introduced into the trade, assisted by the laxity displayed by importers as regards getting proper security for the due fulfilment of contracts. Men of no credit or standing have been allowed to cut into the business of old established houses and goods have been indented for in an indiscriminate manner, trusting to the demand arising for them by the time they arrived, instead of having an outlet assured, to a certain extent, before they were ordered. It is reported that several of the smaller fry have disappeared already, and some of the better known dealers are declining to take up their goods, or even attempt to do so." If the foreign merchant chooses to trust men of no credit or standing, men who have no "face" to lose, it is idle to rail at the honesty of Chinese merchants as a class because the men of no credit or standing fail to take up losing contracts. As against the above quoted remarks of Messrs. NOEL, MURRAY & Co. we may set the following declaration by Mr. Vice-Consul SCOTT in the last report on the working of the Mixed Court at Shanghai:—"It must be acknowledged that the Chinese trader in his commercial relations endeavours to meet his engagements fairly and honestly, for as the result of long experience handed down through years of business, they recognise the necessity of maintaining their commercial honour."

At Shanghai on the 29th October a junk crashed into the *Alacrity*, carrying away a jibboom and doing other minor damage.



## CHINESE COAL.

The announcement made by our Shanghai morning contemporary of the excellence of the coal produced from the newly opened mines of the Chin Yung Ho Mining Co.'s property in the South Taiwu range of hills not far from Amoy is most important if correct. It is stated that a quantity of the mineral has been tried by coasting steamers and Chinese gunboats, the masters of which declare it to be equal if not superior to Moji coal. In consequence of these reports the Foochow Arsenal Authorities have placed large orders with the Chin Yung Ho Company, to be delivered within three months from date of contract. The comparative scarcity and high price of Japanese coal will make the advent of a new competitor on the coal market most welcome. The cost of carriage would also for this market and Singapore be less than that of Japanese coal, a matter of some consideration. It will, however, be unwise to hope too much from any Chinese mine. The chances are that, granted the excellence of quality claimed, the output will be so limited and uncertain on account of want of energy in the direction and official restrictions that it will be an unreliable source of supply. That there are good coal seams in Fukien has long been known, and the existence of great mines of hematite is also well known, but hitherto the obstacles in the way of working them have been insurmountable. Possibly now that China's financial needs are so much more accentuated, the Central Government will be more eager to gain revenue from mines, and will encourage enterprise in this direction. The working of the Kelung Collieries, however, under Chinese direction was a sufficient indication of the limited success such ventures are likely to attain when under official control.

## HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber on the 8th November. Present:—

His EXCELLENCY the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.

His EXCELLENCY Major-General BLACK, C.B. (Officer Commanding the Forces.)

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. M. GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

## MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a financial minute and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

Carried.

## THE CHARGE FOR WATER SUPPLIED TO GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENTS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee, No. 9, referring to the Appropriation Bill, and in doing so said—It will be observed that the Committee unanimously recommended all the items with the exception of that for water supplied to Government House and similar items in the estimated expenditure of other departments. I understand your Excellency is about to make a statement with reference to the charge for water supplied to Government establishments;

and I understand the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce desires that the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the question of increase of salaries be submitted.

His EXCELLENCY—I have instructed the Water Authority not to make any charge in respect of water supplied to Government establishments. (Applause). With regard to the other matter mentioned, I have no objection at all to the correspondence being submitted in due course.

## LAW COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to submit the report of the Law Committee on the Interpretation Bill. The Committee held a meeting after the last Council and the Bill was passed without amendment.

## SANITARY BY-LAW.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that a by-law made by the Sanitary Board be approved. He said it would be remembered that at the last meeting of Council he stated that this by-law had been referred back to the Sanitary Board with a view to a reconsideration of the definition of the word "street." The Sanitary Board had accepted the suggestion made on that point and the by-law was now brought forward for approval.

By-law approved.

## AMENDMENT OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I would ask your Excellency's permission to move a resolution amending the Code of Civil Procedure, which is made on the recommendation of the Judges, the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge. It would be open to me to give notice to-day and move the resolution at the next meeting, but I see by the standing orders a motion may be made without notice the urgency of which is admitted by the President and two-thirds of the members present. I would therefore ask your Excellency's permission to mention the matter and ask the Council to say this resolution may be moved at this meeting. It is simply a resolution making a slight alteration in the Code of Civil Procedure which I will explain when I move the resolution. In a case which occurred the other day, upon the affidavit being tendered which it is necessary for a plaintiff to make in order to obtain judgment, the plaintiff happened to be a corporation and one of the learned members of the legal profession took the objection that a corporation could not make an affidavit. It was found that was so, and that the law in England was up to a few years ago the same as our law but when a case was decided on the point an alteration was made in the rules and orders under the Judicature Act. The resolution I wish to move brings our law into precisely the same state as the English law. It is purely a technical matter or legal point to bring our law into conformity with the English law and as it is brought forward at the request of both Judges I take it hon. members will say it is urgent.

Urgency granted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the following resolution:—"Be it resolved that subsection 2 of section 13 of the Hongkong Code of Civil Procedure shall be and the same is hereby amended by the addition after the words 'upon filing an affidavit' of the words 'made by himself or by any other person who can swear positively to the facts.' If I may repeat myself, where the plaintiff is a corporation or is absent from the colony the affidavit required by subsection 2 of section 13 of the Code of Civil Procedure cannot be made. The same difficulty arose in England, and some years ago the amendment in the procedure was made there which it is now proposed to make in our Code. The only effect of the resolution will be to assimilate the law in this colony to that of England. In so complicated a matter as a Civil Code time and experience are certain to bring to light some *casus omissus*, and accordingly section 99 of the Code provided for necessary amendments, by resolution of the Legislative Council, to be published in the *Gazette*. The wording of the resolution follows the wording of order 14 rule 1 made under the English Judicature Acts.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Carried.

## THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to move that the Council go into committee on the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to apply a sum of not exceeding two millions three hundred and forty-three thousand seven hundred and thirty dollars to the public service of the year 1898."

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Before proceeding to consider this Bill in committee I would like to make a few remarks if I am in order in doing so. I have very carefully considered the Estimates now before the Council together with the very ably constructed address your Excellency delivered two weeks ago, and I beg to offer your Excellency my hearty congratulations on your wise decision not to increase the municipal taxation of the colony. At this time, when there has been a substantial general increase in the cost of living and in the necessities of life owing to the serious fall in exchange with gold countries and other causes, the burden of any addition to the taxes would have been very severely felt by the middle classes, as it is customary here for the tenant and not the house-owner to pay the assessed rates. The working classes among the Chinese would have also been severely hit by the consequences, as Chinese tenement houses are let at a lump sum, taxes included, and again sublet to tenants who let out the individual floors and rooms. Your Excellency is also to be warmly congratulated in that it has been possible to balance the Budget without taxing shipping, the life blood of the colony, beyond what is required to pay for upkeep of the lighthouses and the regulation of the harbour. The perusal of your Excellency's address leads to the conclusion that the colony's financial position is eminently satisfactory, but, sir, after thoroughly examining into matters, I cannot find any cause for jubilation. On the contrary, I consider that the necessity for economy and retrenchment in every direction is as urgent now as ever, if not more so. The Government is in debt to the extent of £340,000, or the balance due in respect of two gold loans of £200,000 each, one raised in 1887, when the dollar was 3/2, and the other in 1893 at 2/7½, as appears from the Treasurer's statement dated 16th August last. The amount of dollars received in respect of the 1887 loan was \$1,263,157.99, and the 1893 loan \$1,536,000, or in all \$2,799,000. The dollar cost of repaying the £60,000 of the first loan appears to have been about \$434,000, and to repay the balance of £340,000 at the present rate of exchange would cost about \$3,568,000, which shows a prospective loss on the colony's gold loans of upwards of \$1,000,000. Whether the present rate of exchange may ultimately be obtained is very doubtful. No one can begin to predict the depth to which silver may descend, as England continues hostile to the white metal and one country after another continues to legislate against it. Even Bulgaria has taken to the yellow metal and is selling off her silver. For any Government whose revenue is raised in silver to contract loans in gold is a most hazardous experiment, in this instance a colossal blunder, and should the dollar fall to 1/6 the loss to the ratepayers of Hongkong may amount to \$2,000,000, through the Government having borrowed in gold in opposition to the views of several of the unofficial members. It is true that if the colony had borrowed locally we would have had to pay two per cent. more interest, but that would have been an infinitesimal item as compared with the enormous loss the appreciation of gold is likely to entail on the colony. It is no doubt satisfactory that the opium monopoly will bring in a largely increased rental during the next three years, but the antiquated system of farming out the tax on opium is unfortunately attended with grave abuses and a good deal of state created crime. Some other less objectionable means of collecting the revenue should be found. The Imperial Government continues to impose a tax of 17½ per cent. on the city's purely municipal revenue for military purposes, which is unfair and unreasonable and delays the erection of a suitable Post Office, Court house, Harbour Master's Office, and other public buildings which are urgently needed. The military contribution exacted from Hongkong is heavier and higher in proportion to revenue than that levied upon any other Crown colony.



in Her Majesty's dominions, and so far the Imperial Government has given no sufficient reason for refusing to extend to this colony the same fair treatment of this question as has been conceded to the sister colony of Singapore. Had the unofficial members of Council adopted the same course as that pursued by the unofficial members of the Singapore Council and caused the home Government to realise that we are in earnest in our protests I feel sure that what has been conceded to Singapore would not be denied to Hongkong. Your Excellency's endeavours on behalf of Hongkong in connection with this tax were greatly appreciated, and I desire to refresh the memory of hon. members as to what you wrote to the Secretary of State on the subject in a despatch dated 28th August, 1895, and for which I feel certain the community will continue to feel grateful. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of that despatch read:—"As you are aware, no municipality exists in Hongkong, and for that reason no distinction has hitherto been made between the revenue collected for general and for municipal purposes. But, though no such distinction has been made, there are certain items of revenue which may legitimately be regarded as municipal, and which, if a municipality existed or were created, would be levied and expended by it. The enclosed list, drawn up by the Acting Treasurer (Mr. Thomson), shows what these items are. If this colony is to be treated in the same manner as the Straits Settlements, where the local or municipal revenues, amounting in round figures to 1½ million dollars, are exempted from contributing towards the military expenditure, it would seem to be only fair that the municipal revenue of Hongkong should be allowed to enjoy a similar exemption. In this connection it should be remembered, as the unofficial members point out, that loans have been raised by Government for the purpose of carrying out works of a purely municipal nature, such as water-works, markets, &c., and it appears equitable that the revenue derived from such works, instead of being subjected to a charge of 17½ per cent., should be applied to their upkeep, to defraying the interest on the moneys raised by loan to construct them, and to forming a sinking fund with a view to the ultimate liquidation of the debt incurred on their account." And in paragraph 7 your Excellency said:—"The arguments advanced by the unofficial members regarding the exemption of the municipal items from contributing towards the military expenditure appear to me to be reasonable and worthy of favourable consideration. In your address of two weeks ago Your Excellency said—"I am informed that Victoria may now be regarded as one of the best drained cities east of Suez and that its domestic sanitation will compare favourably with that of any of the large cities in England." Though much has been done to improve the insanitary condition of the city, and notwithstanding the fact that the Sanitary Board has performed an immense amount of good and useful work during the last three years, a great deal has yet to be accomplished. Three years ago Mr. Jackson, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, speaking at a public meeting, said that "the insanitary condition of Hongkong was a disgrace to our civilisation and to the Government." These words are as true to-day as when they were uttered in 1894. Being a member of the Insanitary Dwellings Commission I speak from knowledge and from a recent personal inspection of a number of Chinese dwellings in Hongkong. There are scores of them which I am sorry to say are mere hotbeds of disease and quite unfit for human habitation. The inaction of the Government in respect of these insanitary buildings must, I fear, be due in some measure to the great influence exercised by landlords in Hongkong, but I sincerely hope that Government will without further delay enact the necessary legislation whereby the Sanitary Board (or what remains of what was at one time a popularly constituted body) will obtain the requisite powers to compel house owners to put their properties into a sanitary condition. If Hongkong is to maintain its prosperity the city must be made thoroughly sanitary as far as human efforts can make it. That no portion of the resumed area of Taipingshan has yet been realised reflects unfavourably on some one. If private individuals looked after their investments

in house property on similar lines to the management of the Taipingshan resumption, which cost about one million dollars, they would soon find themselves involved in bankruptcy. The recent discovery through the instrumentality of a ratepayer that bribery and corruption has been rampant in the Police Force and in other departments of the Government service is a dark blot on the system of Crown Colony Government. There are increasing almost daily proofs of the necessity for a form of Government which will yield the residents some voice in respect of municipal matters. As long ago as 1847 a Parliamentary Committee was appointed to inquire into Hongkong matters and the report of that Committee made the following amongst other recommendations:—"That a share in the administration of the ordinary and local affairs of the island be given by some system of municipal government to the British residents." And the Secretary of State three years ago, in the concluding paragraph of his despatch of the 23rd August, 1894, said:—"Still it is possible that the Sanitary Board might be developed into a satisfactory Municipal Council controlling all or some of the revenue which is now derived from rates. Whether any scheme of the kind is possible I would ask you carefully to consider at your leisure." Sir, I think that if something of this kind had been granted in by-gone years the irregularities in the Police Force and the Registrar-General's and other departments might have been less serious than they were recently discovered to be. I think also the defalcations in the Post Office and the Treasury might have been less heavy than they were and that the legacy of insanitation throughout the city which this generation fell heir to might have been less onerous than it was. I should rejoice to be one of this Council who could join in an address to your Excellency such as was presented to you before leaving Trinidad and I hope the remarks I have made may have some effect and that before you leave us you may be able to do something more for us. We are greatly indebted to you for many things, including the extension and improvement of the Recreation Ground and several new roads, amongst them the road from Victoria Gap to Mount Kellett, which is very much appreciated, and the road from Plantation Road to Magazine Gap, which will also be greatly appreciated. Let me read one paragraph from the address presented to you before leaving Trinidad:—"Every measure initiated by Your Excellency has not met with the unanimous approval of this Council, there will remain after you leave these shores monuments of good work done during your administration, the credit of which but few will dare to begrudge you. The unofficial section of this Council will long have reason to remember the liberal extension of their privileges which has been allowed at your suggestion. We allude to the increase in their number, so that now that section of this Council is in the majority, and the establishment of the Standing Committee on Finance, while the public are grateful for the steps taken in assigning districts to the several unofficial members of the Council, so that their wants are more easily brought to the notice of the Legislature."

HIS EXCELLENCY—Do you make any motion?

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—No, Sir.

Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, on the vote for Public Works Extraordinary, said:—While on this subject might I ask for some information about the new Public Offices? In Council last year, on the 8th July, I asked if the Government would inform the Council of the cause of delay in taking steps to obtain by public competition plans and designs for the proposed new Government Offices, including the Post Office, the Supreme Court, etc.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think the Secretary of State refused to allow public competition; is not that so?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes, and a despatch has been received from the Secretary of State asking for further information as to the financial position of the colony.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Have the Government leased Beaconsfield?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—For what period and on what conditions?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—For three years at \$425 a month with the option of renewal for another three years. Of course that will relieve the Government of the cost of rent for the offices at present occupied by the Attorney-General, the Crown Solicitor, the Education Department, and the Sanitary Department.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It seems a great pity our valuable reclamation ground, worth \$10 a square foot, should lie fallow.

The Bill passed through Committee without amendment and was read a third time and passed.

#### CHINESE EXTRADITION BILL.

Council resumed Committee on the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend The Chinese Extradition Ordinance 1889."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The Council will recollect that this Bill was left in the committee stage on one point in order that any hon. member might move an amendment if he thought fit. There was some objection taken to the words "six months immediately prior to the date of his so being brought before the Magistrate," as determining the period of residence in the colony that would render depositions inadmissible in proceedings against a person whose extradition was applied for. The hon. member on my left (Hon. Ho Kai) thought this would give too much power, and I thought he would communicate with me, but until I got into the room two or three minutes before the Council met I had not heard from him. Personally I would prefer the Bill in its present state. I believe the working of the Bill will be most carefully watched and if there is any reason to suppose it leads to abuse it will be amended. I think it would be better to leave the Bill in its present state, if my hon. friend on my left consents, because the principle of this six months has been approved by the Secretary of State and I do not like to make an alteration at a moment's notice. If we omitted the words "immediately prior to" and made any six months do a person contemplating the commission of piratical attacks or other crimes in Chinese jurisdiction could live here six months, go away and commit his crimes, and then come back here and say this Ordinance did not apply to him.

Hon. HO KAI—Sir, on the last occasion I raised an objection to the words "immediately prior to," and at my request the Bill was left in Committee. I did promise the Attorney-General to communicate with him in the interval, but unfortunately, as he was aware, I had to go to Canton on business for a few days and I did not get back until Saturday. I made an effort to communicate with him to-day, but did not find him at his office. Now it seems to me that my objection, although I stated it as plainly as I could, has not been understood by the Attorney-General. The six months, if the words "immediately prior to" were allowed to remain, would apply to the case of every Chinaman who happened to leave the colony temporarily, no matter how long he might have resided in the colony, because a Chinese mandarin would not think of charging a man with having committed a serious crime in China while he was residing in Hongkong, because it would be impossible for a man to commit a crime in the interior of China while he was resident in Hongkong; they would wait for an opportunity until the man they wanted went back to the country to take his children to get married, or on account of sickness, or on the occasion of the annual visit to the ancestral home. It is that time that would be pitched upon for the commission of the alleged crime. Any merchant, no matter how long he might have resided in the colony, if he went to visit his ancestral home would be brought within the provisions of this Ordinance. It is proposed to alter the law to suit the Chinese Government, and no doubt we should try to please the Viceroy of Canton as far as we can, but I do think that we should hesitate at placing all the Chinese merchants and residents of this colony, no matter how long they may have resided here, under the thumb of the mandarins on the mainland. If you retain these words every Chinese resident who goes away for any purpose whatsoever will be brought under the provisions of this



clause. It is all very well to say you will watch the working of the Ordinance with a great deal of care, but cases have happened before where great injustice has been worked on residents of this colony, so much so that one person was sentenced to imprisonment for two lives and twenty years for attempting to practice it. Now we don't want any repetition of that, and I stick to the principle of the English law that it is better ten guilty men should escape than that one innocent man should suffer. When in Canton I had a talk with the Consul on the matter, and I think the point has not been sufficiently considered. I regret that when communications were passing with the Consul the representatives of the Chinese were not communicated with, for then we would have been able to give our advice, instead of being spoken to only at the last moment. I have spoken to several leading Chinese and also the British Consul at Canton, and I think this point requires the serious consideration of the Government.

H. E. the GENERAL—Will you not make a motion?

Hon. HO KAI—Yes, I move that the words "immediately prior to" be struck out. The sentence should be altered to read in this way, "The person accused has not resided in the colony more than six months during the twelve months previous to the date of his so being brought before the Magistrate," that is, if he can prove that during the twelve months he has resided in the colony continuously and has only left for a month or two, then in that case the Chinese Government would have to secure their extradition in the old way and bring the witnesses down from Canton, but if the man has not resided in the colony six months during the previous year depositions might be received.

H. E. the GENERAL—I second that.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I think the Attorney-General will probably be able to accede to the hon. member's alternative resolution, not the first one simply omitting the words "immediately prior to," but his second or alternative proposition, making the period of residence six months in the previous year.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Personally I would rather the Bill remained as it stands, but I do not propose to make any special objection to the amendment. But I may mention to the Council what the objection is. There are, according to the Viceroy, certain Chinese criminals who make Hongkong their head quarters and who return to Hongkong immediately after committing their robberies on the mainland. These are the people who are intended to be got at by this Bill. But if you say all one of these men has got to do is to reside here for six or seven months, then he can do what he likes on the mainland during the remaining five months of the year, because the difficulties under the old system are so great that extradition is hardly ever demanded. You cannot devise any scheme that is free from objection. In Europe depositions are used universally, but here depositions have not been used at all hitherto, because it was thought they would be liable to abuse. This Bill provides three safeguards; first, that the depositions must be taken before the Consul, and the Consul must certify that there has been no force or compulsion used in obtaining them; then there is the safeguard of the residence of six months; and there is the further alternative specified in the objects and reasons. Then there are only a certain class of cases in which extradition can be applied for; they cannot make up any bogus crimes. The crimes are only crimes of violence, murder, manslaughter, piracy, burglary, housebreaking, or robbery with violence. My own personal view is that it would be better the Bill should be left as it is. At the same time, if it is the wish of the Council it should read "six months during the preceding twelve months," it may be so, but as I say, any one who wishes to commit crimes in China will only have to reside here for six months and then he will be free to do as he likes.

H. E. the GENERAL—But that evil is somewhat less than that suggested by my hon. friend opposite, and therefore I am strongly in favour of the motion brought forward by him.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—In view of the general feeling of the Council I do not oppose the motion of my hon. friend on my left and

the Bill will pass with the words "during the period of six months during the previous twelve months."

Council resumed.

The Bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

#### THE VAGRANCY BILL.

HIS EXCELLENCY said he did not propose to take the next item on the orders of the day, Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Vagrants.

#### THE INTERPRETATION BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Construction of Ordinances, to further shorten the Language used in Ordinances, and for other like purposes. This Bill has been passed by the Law Committee without alteration and I think it will be a very useful statute on our books. I feel much obliged to our learned Chief Justice, who drafted this Ordinance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Bill read a third time and passed.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until the 29th Nov.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council meeting, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said he had only one minute to place before the Committee and that was one in which H. E. the Governor recommended a vote of \$650 for the purchase and repair of police boats.

Vote recommended.

### THE GOLD STANDARD FOR THE STRAITS.

#### THE DOLLAR A SUBSIDIARY COIN.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]  
Singapore, 4th November.

The report of the Committee of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce appointed to consider the currency question will recommend the adoption of a Gold Currency with the sovereign as the unit and token dollars good for two shillings.

#### THE WEST RIVER.

The provisional regulations for trade on the West River having now been published by the Canton Commissioner of Customs some general comments might not be out of place. They are apparently framed on the basis of those regulating trade on the Yangtze, and while in a few instances some of the rules might apply, the features of the two rivers are so unlike it is a pity that special and well considered measures were not adopted suitable to the requirements and situation of the West River. It is stipulated that, in addition to the Treaty ports (Samshui and Wuchow), Kongmoon, Kumchuk, Shiuhing, and Takhing are established as places of call, which means that vessels trading on the river are permitted to stop and land or ship passengers and cargo. The fact, however, has been forgotten that on the Yangtze vessels are trading between one Treaty port and another and cargo bound to a port of call can be examined at the port of shipment, where it pays duty, and in return the owner obtains a duty paid certificate, which frees his cargo from import duty at its destination. On the West River things are entirely different, where cargo is shipped from Hongkong to a port of call or from a port of call to Hongkong. In this instance both the import and export duties are collected by the native authorities, instead of by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and although the former are under the supposed control of the latter and provided with the necessary forms, &c., it is very doubtful to say how far the Customs tariff will be adhered to. The simplest and easiest way out of the difficulty would undoubtedly be to ask the Imperial Customs to establish some place in Hongkong where cargo could be examined and duty paid on all cargo bound to ports of call on the West River and a duty-paid certificate issued similar to the custom followed on the Yangtze. Hongkong being a British free port certain objec-

tions would probably be raised against the collection of duties by the Chinese Customs in the harbour, but in order to facilitate and further British trade such objections should be overcome, especially when we know that the head office of the Imperial Maritime Customs, which controls the Kowloon Custom-house and Stations, is and has been for years established in Queen's Road.

However, there is little doubt but if Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Customs, were approached—he is always willing and anxious to assist trade—arrangements could be made for cargo to be examined and duty paid at the Kowloon Customs (Lai-chi-kok) and where transit passes could also be obtained. This station is only about a couple of miles across the Hongkong harbour and cargo could be sent and brought back without much delay. This, of course, refers to outward cargo only. The imports to Hongkong from ports of call, which after all are of small importance, could remain under the present arrangements. What is wanted in the first place is that British goods should arrive at the required market by the quickest route and at the lowest cost. Paying the import duty into China and transit duty should free the cargo of all further payments to its destination. At present the amount of import duty at ports of call is uncertain and as no transit pass can be obtained the lekin charges are still more so.

It is provided in the Regulations that steamers only are permitted to land or ship passengers and cargo at ports of call on the West River. Here again is a rule which applies to the Yangtze, but to anyone acquainted with the Sikiang it can only be looked upon as an injustice to many traders. The difference is this: on the Yangtze a large business is done by lorches and other sailing craft which take as long as two months sometimes between Shanghai and Hankow, and it would be absurd to allow vessels of this description to call at wayside stations to trade, seeing they are so long away from control of the Customs. On the other hand, the West River is so well sheltered by high and mountainous banks that constant and uninterrupted trade is carried on by steam launches of every description, and thus an opportunity is afforded for small sailing vessels to purchase steam power in the shape of a tow. Many such vessels are trading regularly on the West River which would be in a position to earn more if they were allowed to make use of the ports of call. So long as vessels are under the control of steam and making rapid and continuous trips they should be allowed all the privileges accorded to steamers. The narrow bed of the West River would not admit of sailing vessels beating up against the current.

Instead of the Yangtze being taken as a basis for framing regulations by, such rivers as the Jumna, Ganges, Brahmapootra, and Irrawaddy, whose general features are more like those of the West River, might be an example. In these instances steamers leaving Calcutta or Rangoon have in tow two cargo-boats, one on each side, locally known as flats, laden with cargo. The steamer takes the passengers. At the first wayside station or port of call one of the flats is dropped and probably another is taken in tow, which has been dropped by the previous steamer, and thus time and expense are saved in landing and shipping cargo and passengers. The steamer proceeds to her destination with little delay and the flat is left in the hands of cargo coolies to discharge and load with no unnecessary rush and almost no expense. This is only an example of what might be done on the West River, but which would be practically impossible on the broad and rough waters of the Yangtze. If there is any sound reason why registered foreign sailing vessels should be debarred from getting a cheap tow from a regular passenger steamer it is difficult to understand, but the regulations distinctly say that should this be done the towing steamer is not allowed to carry passengers or cargo. Such towage, then, under the circumstances, is impossible. Mr. E. B. Drew, the Commissioner of Customs in Canton, who is understood to be more or less the framer of the provisional regulations, is inclined to be in favour of passenger steamers towing vessels holding national registers, but no instructions to that effect have reached Mr. H. M. Hillier,



the Commissioner of Kowloon, &c., whose office is in Queen's Road, and considerable loss and inconvenience have been caused thereby. It is well known for a fact that Yangtze steamers have towed many ocean sailing vessels up to load tea in Hankow, but it is not known that they were for doing so prohibited from calling in at the wayside ports for landing and picking up passengers, &c. It is hoped that this regulation will be rescinded and public notice to that effect given in regard to the West River.

Rule 5 of section 1 provides that all vessels entering by the Wang Moon must take the Kerr and Junction Channels, while a glance at the chart would show one that Sailum Channel is by far the shorter and safer.

Although not mentioned in the regulations under review, a port rule has been made in Whohow that all vessels arriving there with kerosine on board must anchor half-a-mile below the limits of the harbour and discharge the oil before they are allowed to come into port, and after such cargo is discharged they must again shift berths into the harbour before they are allowed to land or take in any general cargo. The idea of sending kerosine ships to discharge below the harbour is undoubtedly to keep shipping safe in case of fire, but as the current is always running down—water doesn't run up hill—they should be allowed to come into the harbour—it is larger than is ever likely to be required—and anchor immediately below the shipping in shallow water and escape the expense I have pointed out, also the danger of anchoring in 16 fathoms with an eight knot current running in the summer time.

J. A.

Hongkong, 3rd November, 1897.

In reference to the above article and the restriction of calling and trading at the four places of call to steamers only, as distinguished from non-steam vessels, it should be mentioned that the restriction is in the Treaty which opened the river and is not a new restriction imposed by the Regulations. It is the Treaty also which lays down the principle that the Yangtze Regulations have to be followed on the West River. The regulations are, however, provisional for a year. The old Yangtze Regulations were revised more than once and no doubt the West River Regulations will also be revised, when the requirements of the trade are fully understood, and, we hope, in a liberal spirit. There is nothing to prevent China enlarging the privileges accorded by the Treaty and allowing non-steam vessels to call and trade at the ports of call.

### THE CHARGE OF CHAMPERTY.

On 4th Nov. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse resumed the hearing of the charge of champerty brought against Wong Chuk Lam, a clerk in Mr. K. W. Mounsey's office, and Pang Kun Chi. Mr. H. L. Dennys (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, Mr. J. Hastings defended Wong Chuk Lam, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson defended Pang Kun Chi.

The case was opened on Monday, when the facts were explained. A junk belonging to Kwok Hin Tai was run down by the P. & O. steamer *Rosetta* and some of the boat people were drowned. The owner of the junk saw Pang Kun Chi, who promised, it was alleged by the prosecution, to obtain compensation from the P. & O. Company. He also undertook to pay costs on the understanding that the owner paid Pang Kun Chi 60 per cent. of the amount recovered for damages and 30 per cent. of the amount recovered for the loss of life. These terms were agreed to and the parties went to Mr. Mounsey's office, where Wong Chuk Lam took down the junk owner's statement. Two actions were brought against the P. & O. Company, who paid altogether \$2,000 as compensation. Of this amount Mr. Mounsey, as solicitor for the plaintiff, received only \$150, while Kwok Hin Tai received \$900, and Wong Chuk Lam \$950.

The junk owner was further examined by Mr. Dennys. In cross-examination by Mr. Hastings witness said he never had any intention of claiming from Wong Chuk Lam the \$950 deducted by him, but merely pressed him to collect the \$300 promised by the com-

pradore of the P. & O. Company. Up to August he used to call on Wong Chuk Lam about once a week concerning this matter, but finding all attempts futile, he instructed Mr. Dennys to claim from Wong Chuk Lam \$200. Asked whether he was quite certain it was \$200 and not \$900 he had instructed Mr. Dennys to claim, he replied he was quite certain. A letter from Mr. Dennys to Wong Chuk Lam, dated the 8th August, demanding the return of \$900 on behalf of his client, Kwok Hin Tai, was then read by Mr. Hastings, but the witness still protested there must have been a misunderstanding, for he had merely asked Mr. Dennys to get back \$200. He did not see Wong Chuk Lam pay Mr. K. W. Mounsey \$50 on the 8th April, but saw him take this amount from a drawer in his desk. He was told it was to be given to Mr. Mounsey as payment for services in the case. He was certain no shares had been handed to Mr. Mounsey to secure the payment of the costs of the suit, nor had any promissory note been given for this purpose.

The cross-examination lasted till 4.30 p.m. and the case was then adjourned.

5th November.

Cross-examined by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, Kwok Hin Tai, the owner of the junk, declared he had never seen Pang Kun Chi before the 7th April. Pang Kun Chi did not ask him for any money to carry on the suit, as he had already stated he had none, and it was on that account that Pang Kun Chi undertook to defray all expenses. After he had seen Mr. Mounsey, he was told by Pang Kun Chi that the matter was in the hands of Wong Chuk Lam, and he was to apply to him for any information he might want.

Re-examined by Mr. Dennys witness stated that the settlement of \$200 was come to between him and Wong Chuk Lam without any consultation with his solicitor, Mr. H. L. Dennys.

Mr. K. W. Mounsey was then called. He said that he had been consulted by Pang Kun Chi about the collision on the 6th April, but did not receive definite instructions to proceed with the matter until the 7th April, when \$50 was paid to him by Pang Kun Chi on account of the costs of the suit. On the 9th April two suits were commenced by him on behalf of Kwok Hin Tai against the P. & O. Company. The preliminary acts of the P. and O. Company were filed but he was not certain whether his were. On April 17th he received a notice that the case had been settled. He thereupon went to Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master's office to receive the \$2,000, but was told the P. and O. Company had given instructions that the money should be paid to the party direct. He then sent Kwok Hin Tai to Mr. Master with a letter in which was enclosed a statutory declaration and two receipts, one for \$1,850, and the other for \$150, being what he wished to be deducted for his own costs. Since then he had not seen Kwok Hin Tai and up to the 10th August, when he received Mr. Dennys's letter, he was not aware the full amount had not been received by Kwok Hin Tai. After the receipt of that letter, he had an interview with Mr. Dennys and told that gentleman if he had any complaint to make against Wong Chuk Lam, he should apply to him personally. On the 1st September he received a letter from the Attorney-General stating that a complaint had been made to the Government by the Superintendent of the P. & O. Company, concerning this affair and he sent as answer Mr. Dennys's letter and his own reply to that.

Ho Kit, master of the Wing Cheong On boarding house in Jubilee Street, said that Kwok Hin Tai went to see him on the morning after the collision, 6th April, and, having related the incidents, asked him if he knew of anybody who could help to obtain compensation from the P. & O. Company. He recommended Pang Kun Chi. He knew nothing about the arrangements made between Kwok Hin Tai and Pang Kun Chi. The first time he took any active part in the matter was when he accompanied Kwok Hin Tai to Mr. Mounsey's office to demand of Wong Chuk Lam the balance of the money due. Wong Chuk Lam replied that was all they had to receive. He then took Kwok Hin Tai to

Mr. Dennys and instructed that gentleman to claim from Wong Chuk Lam the return of \$900. Some days afterwards he was sent for by Wong Chuk Lam, who asked him to fetch Kwok Hin Tai. He did so, and Wong Chuk Lam only acknowledged owing Kwok Hin Tai \$200. Kwok Hin Tai agreed to accept that amount. A note for \$225, \$25 being for Mr. Dennys's costs, was then signed by Wong Chuk Lam and given to Kwok Hin Tai. He had no further connection with the matter.

6th November.

Evidence was taken of the arrest and the case for the prosecution then closed.

Mr. Dennys was about to address the Court, when Mr. Hastings asked His Worship to dismiss the case at once. He contended the offence of champerty with which his client was charged was an obsolete one and unknown to the courts of the present day. Not only had there been no case of the kind in this colony, but there had been none in England for several centuries. "Archbold's Criminal Pleadings," the leading book of the day on criminal cases, contained no reference to the offence. "Roscoe's Evidence in Criminal Cases" did contain a short notice of it, but only quoted from the old authorities, "Hawkins' Pleas of the Crown" and "Bacon's Abridgement." Champerty was a bargain between a plaintiff or defendant in a cause to divide the matter sued for between them, if they prevail at law, whereupon the champertor is to carry on the party's suit or action at his own expense. Every champerty implied maintenance, but every maintenance was not champerty. To prove that the offence of champerty had been committed it had first to be proved that there was maintenance. In support of his contention he then quoted from "Roscoe's Evidence in Criminal Cases" and "Hawkins' Pleas of the Crown." In the latter, it was stated: "Anyone may lawfully give money to a poor man to enable him to carry on his suit." He challenged Mr. Dennys, to quote any case of this kind that had occurred in a criminal court. There were a few modern cases in the civil court, such as "Bradlaugh v. Newdigate" and "Harness v. The Electrical Battery Company." The P. & O. Company, at whose instigation the present case was instituted, might have brought an action for damages against the defendants in a civil court, but in a criminal court the charge could not be sustained. His client, Wong Chuk Lam, was employed in a solicitor's office, and it was his duty to aid his employer in procuring him cases and to assist the clients to win their suits, but not to aid them with money. To prove that Wong Chuk Lam had been guilty of champerty, it must first be proved that he had aided Kwok Hin Tai with money, and that an agreement had been made between them. The prosecution had entirely failed to substantiate the facts, and he asked His Worship to dismiss the case.

His Worship said he had decided to hear the witnesses for the defence.

Leung Chi Cheong was called. He said he was an interpreter in Mr. Mounsey's office. On the 7th April, at about 9.30 a.m., Pang Kun Chi, Sho Chin Cheng, Kwok Hin Tai, and a man named Sam went into the office and spoke to Wong Chuk Lam about a collision case. From his desk he could see and hear all that passed. Pang Kun Chi asked Wong Chuk Lam whether Mr. Mounsey would undertake the case on credit. Wong Chuk Lam said Mr. Mounsey never did anything of the sort. They then went together to see Mr. Mounsey and the four left shortly afterwards. At eleven o'clock they returned with a man named Chan Chi Kong. Sho Chin Cheng told Wong Chuk Lam that his friend, Chan Chi Kong, wished to borrow \$200 on the security of two Man On Insurance Shares then worth \$120 each. Wong Chuk Lam promised to see into the matter and they left. At noon Pang Kun Chi, Sho Chin Cheng, and Chan Chi Kong returned and asked about the money. Wong Chuk Lam said he had found one Pun Yan Po, who was willing to advance the amount, but on condition that the whole should be repaid within two months. The money lender was then sent for and terms were come to. The interest charged was 2 per cent. per month. Pun Yan Po drafted the promissory note, which was



copied out and signed by Chan Chi Kong. At 2 p.m. on the same day Pang Chi and Sho Chin Chèng paid Mr. Mounsey \$50 on account of the costs of the suit. Being asked to describe what occurred on the 17th May, witness said that at about 4.30 p.m. on that day Sho Chin Chèng came into the office with Kwok Hin Tai. Both said the money had been received, and that they were thankful for the trouble which had been taken. Sho Chin Chèng said he wished to pay the promissory note and get back the share scripts. Pun Y u Po was sent for and Sho Chin Chèng handed him two \$100 notes and a few silver dollars for interest.

Cross-examined by Mr. Dennys witness stated that he had heard of Mr. Dennys's letter to Mr. Mounsey but he had not seen it. He heard of the contents from Mr. Mounsey, but he did not tell that gentleman of his personal knowledge of the affair. He saw Mr. Dennys's letter to Wong Chuk Lam, but he did not even then tell Mr. Mounsey all he knew of the matter. When Wong Chuk Lam received Mr. Dennys's letter, he became quite excited and instantly sent for Sho Chin Chèng. Pang Kun Chi, and Kwok Hin Tai. Kwok Hin Tai agreed to accept from Sho Chin Chèng \$225. \$25 being for Mr. Dennys's costs in settlement of his claim. A promissory note for that amount was written out by Pang Kun Chi, and signed by him on behalf of Sho Chin Chèng, who put his mark on the note. It was not Wong Chuk Lam but Sho Chin Chèng who received the \$950 on the 17th May. He did not know where Sho Chin Chèng was. He had never seen him before the 7th April nor after the 17th May.

8th November.

The case ended in the conviction of both defendants. The first defendant, was fined \$100, and Pang Kun Chi, the second defendant, was ordered to pay a similar amount and also sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment. Mr. Wilkinson, on behalf of his client, asked for leave to appeal. The Magistrate acceded to the request.

#### HONGKONG CRICKET FESTIVAL.

##### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS V. HONGKONG.

The 1897 Hongkong cricket week commenced on the 8th Nov., when the representatives of the Straits Settlements opposed the Hongkong team. Happily the weather was, contrary perhaps to expectations, fine, although there was not very much sun during the day. The preparations for the week's festival were in every way complete, extra accommodation being provided for members of the Club as well as the general public, but at no time during the day was the large special match filled with spectators. Before luncheon very few watched the progress of the game, but later in the afternoon the attendance considerably increased, ladies being strongly in evidence.

Colonel Gordon was chosen as captain of the Hongkong team and of course Captain Talbot was captain of the Straits team, and these two were early on the grounds to choose a suitable wicket. The preliminary arrangements occupied some time and a start was not made until 10.30, or half an hour after the appointed time. It was easy to see from the beaming countenances of the visitors that they had been fortunate to win the toss and naturally they elected to bat first on an easy wicket, which, however, was a little bumpy at the barracks end.

The Straits team gave a magnificent display of batting and compiled the fine score of 413 before being finally dismissed. Glassford, Captain Talbot, and Stevens were in splendid form and they all played grand cricket, treating all the bowlers pretty much alike. It is true that the complexion of affairs would have been altered if the Hongkong men had taken advantage of every opportunity given to them, but apart from the mistakes the batting displays were just what the public like to see—sound, free, and powerful hitting, and those residents who were absent from the field yesterday missed a grand treat. The fielding of the Hongkong team, it should be mentioned, was, without taking into consideration the three bad errors they made, very good indeed, the ball as a rule being picked up and returned very smartly. The two best performances were of course Howard's feat in throwing down

Healing's wicket and the fine catch by Anton in the long field.

Hongkong, it must be confessed, made a lamentable display, they having at the call of time lost no fewer than six of their best wickets for the poor total of 97. Perhaps the least said about their batting the better: we only hope they will retrieve their position by a gallant display to-day.

By kind permission of Colonel Gordon and Officers the band of West Yorkshire Regiment, under Mr. W. G. Bentley, played excellent selections of music during the afternoon.

Glassford and Whitley opened the Straits' innings to the bowling of Hastings (City Hall end) and Sercombe Smith. Both batsmen played rather cautiously at first, but after the first six overs, which produced ten runs, they appeared to be at their ease. Whitley was the first to win applause by a pretty cut for two off Hastings. He sent the same bowler to the boundary for four and then Glassford snicked Smith prettily to the off boundary, following this up with a beautiful straight drive to the rails. Twenty was registered in ten minutes and an additional ten was soon run up by boundary hits off each bowler. With the score at 32, however, Whitley was dismissed with a well-pitched ball from Smith, who was keeping a good pace. (32.1.11). McKenzie joined Glassford and the new-comer quickly ran up ten runs, causing 40 to be telegraphed. A smart bit of fielding by Campbell in stopping a hard driven ball from Glassford off Smith was the next feature. At 46, Wood displaced Hastings, whose six overs had cost 31 runs, and Glassford sent the last ball of Wood's first over to the off boundary, bringing up the fifty. Without an additional run being recorded McKenzie was taken at long off by Vallings, who ran from long cover. (50.2.11). Sercombe Smith's two wickets had cost only fifteen runs—a particularly good performance which would have been further improved upon if Johnston, at mid-on, had held a ball sent to him by Glassford. T. R. Hubback joined Glassford, who had now made 28. Wood bowled a maiden and Glassford cut Smith for four and then pulled him round to square leg for four. But Smith had his revenge in his next over, getting Hubback well caught in the long field by Ward, who brought off the catch after a considerable run. (6.3.2). Smith had now taken three wickets for 28 runs. Healing, a left handed batsman, partnered Glassford, who was certainly well set and in tall scoring mood, he having made two-thirds of the total. Wood had now bowled five overs, and only two of his balls had been hit. Glassford hit Smith to square leg to the boundary, but he treated the next four balls very carefully. Healing later got hold of a loose one from Smith and sent it to square leg high and dry over the pailings, the hit counting six. The game had been in progress just an hour when Glassford pulled Smith round to square leg for four, the score then being 84. One run only had been added when a separation was effected. Healing drove a ball from Smith hard on, and tried a run. Howard fielded brilliantly and dashed down the wickets before Healing had completed the run. (85.4.8). Captain Talbot joined Glassford and both batsmen soon got to work, the hundred being telegraphed after an hour and ten minutes' play. Smith's over at this point bringing eight runs. After having made ten Captain Talbot was missed by Anton off Wood in the long field and the ball went to the boundary. In Wood's next over Talbot made a beautiful off drive to the rails and then cut him, also for four, and after Glassford had made a single Talbot late cut Smith for three, causing 120 to be hoisted. The batsmen played with the utmost care, not even Glassford taking any liberties with the bowling. At 124 Colonel Gordon deemed it expedient to change the bowling at both ends and Vallings took the ball from Smith, while Howard supplanted Wood, who had bowled eleven overs for 26 runs. Talbot scored four off Vallings's second ball, a single off his last, four off Howard's first, a hit to the leg boundary off his fourth, and a late cut to the boundary off his last—altogether seventeen runs in the two overs. When he had made 45 Talbot was again badly missed in the long field, this time

by Ward, the total then being 142. Talbot took advantage of his let-off by driving Howard to the off boundary and then hitting him for a single, while Glassford also scored a boundary hit off the same bowler. Glassford, in Vallings's next over, made a pretty cut to the rails and then drove him to the on boundary, bringing up 160. The telegraph board being so busy another bowling change was brought about, Hastings resuming in place of Howard. Talbot drove his last ball to the boundary and later brought Vallings round to square leg for four and drove him to the off for a similar number. He tried hard to cut Hastings in the next over, but Maitland, at point, fielded smartly. However, the next ball was pulled round to the square leg boundary, 180 being now telegraphed. Sercombe Smith was then put on again in place of Vallings, and Hastings bowled at the other end. Still runs came merrily, Talbot pulling one from Hastings round to square leg and lifting the ball over the rails near the Parade Ground. Talbot had been scoring at a tremendous rate and had now reached 81, while Glassford was only one run more. Another change was tried, Wood being put on in place of Hastings. A separation was at length effected. Talbot snicked Wood's third ball which bounded sharply off the wicket keeper's glove and hopped into Sercombe Smith's hand at point, and it was safely held. (197.5.81). Captain Talbot had hit magnificently, but of course his innings was marred by the two chances which he had given, one in the early part of the game. His total included one six and thirteen fours, and he compiled them with extraordinary rapidity. On his return to the pavilion his reception was very hearty. Stevens took Talbot's place and 200 was soon afterwards telegraphed amidst applause. A leg hit by each batsman was followed by some pretty free scoring, one of Stevens's strokes being a grand leg hit over the rails on the pavilion side. An on drive to the boundary off Wood brought Glassford's score up to 10, and the spectators suitably applauded the batsman. He had made only an additional six runs when he put up one from Wood and was caught by Maitland. (24.6.110). The outgoing batsman had played an exceedingly patient and brilliant game, the chance he gave to Johnston being the only faulty hit he made. His 110 included nineteen fours and he was at the wickets altogether two hours and thirty-five minutes. It now wanted only five minutes to the luncheon interval and when the bell rang A. B. Hubback and Stevens were together, the score standing at 250 for six wickets, Stevens being not out 14 and Hubback not out 8.

After an interval of three quarters of an hour the not-outs, Stevens and Hubback, resumed batting, Wood and Smith being the bowlers. Hubback started well, putting on three fours, while Stevens also made two boundary hits, most of them coming off Smith's bowling. So rapid was the scoring that 270 was telegraphed six minutes after resumption. Seven runs later Smith sent down a beautiful ball which dismissed Hubback, (277.7.24). The new comer, Curtis, started auspiciously by swinging Smith to square leg over the rails on the pavilion side, and in the next over he performed a similar feat off Wood, following this up by an off drive to the boundary. Runs came apace and an on boundary drive off Smith by Stevens sent up the 300. Howard now went on at the City Hall end in place of Wood and Vallings displaced Smith. The change looked as if it would be productive of nothing but runs, as both batsmen let out freely, Curtis getting hold of one ball in Howard's second over and lifting it over the screen. He tried to do the same thing with the next ball, but it fell into Anton's hands, where it remained intact. (318.8.25). Woodroffe signalled his appearance at the wickets by hitting Vallings to leg for four, the ball dropping amongst the spectators in the pavilion. The game was now very lively and both batsmen hit all round the wicket. The pace at which runs came may be imagined from the fact that eighty runs were added to the total half an hour after the resumption. The ninth wicket fell to a splendid catch by Anton off Howard. Woodroffe was the victim, and he drove the ball hard to long on. Anton ran to meet it and brought off a most brilliant catch. This was certainly one of the most notable features



of the fielding and the performance was cordially applauded by the spectators. F. W. Talbot (left hand) was the last man in. Stevens continued to hit with much vigour and a four was a common stroke for him to make. Vallings received a lot of punishment, and on one occasion Stevens hit him clean over the trees on the barracks side. The rate of scoring was really phenomenal, even considering the smallness of the ground, no fewer than 130 runs being knocked up in fifty minutes. At 3.5 Smith went on again in place of Vallings, and Wood took the ball from Howard. The change had no effect on the batsmen, who scored with perfect freedom, and at three o'clock 400 was hoisted, 150 runs having thus been scored in one hour. Hits for four were pretty common; six hits were not infrequent. With the score at 410 Stevens completed his 100. In making the next hit he gave a difficult chance to Maitland at point, but it made the difference of only one run, as with the total at 413 he was bowled by Wood and the innings closed at eight minutes past three. Stevens had played a remarkably good innings, which was noted particularly for the hard brilliant hitting he had displayed. His score included four sixes and fourteen fours. Talbot's 27 was made up of five fours, the remainder being singles.

At 3.3 Maitland and G. D. Campbell went to the wickets to enter on the formidable task set the Hongkong team. The bowlers were R. M. McKenzie (City Hall end) and M. H. Whiteley (Barracks end). The start was most disastrous, Maitland succumbing to McKenzie's first delivery, the ball scattering his wickets. (0-1.0). The first to score was Campbell, who had been joined by Ward, and he was also responsible for the next hit, sending McKenzie twice to the leg boundary, while Ward pulled Whiteley round to square leg for a couple, sending 10 up. Ward cut Whiteley nicely to the boundary and Campbell got him away to leg in the next over for three, the wicket keeper fielding the ball. Thirty was registered after a beautiful six hit to square leg by Ward off Whiteley, and then Campbell prettily cut McKenzie for a single. The next ball nearly proved fatal to Ward, who put it up to Whiteley at point, but the chance was missed. But it made no difference to the score, as without a run being added, Ward run himself out owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding. The ball went off Campbell's pad, and Ward tried the run, but Campbell was not ready and Ward was run out when half way up the pitch. (32.2.14). Wood partnered Campbell and runs came rather slowly for a time, the batsmen treating the bowling with great respect. Wood made rather a hazardous stroke and soon afterwards Campbell returned a ball to Whiteley, who secured it. (50.3.25). Johnston followed, but he had only made a single when he was caught and bowled by McKenzie. (51.4.1) The bowlers seemed to give the batsmen considerable difficulty and at times the ball got up a lot, particularly at the barracks end, and for some minutes there was absolutely no scoring—a decided contrast to the brilliant display given by the Straits team. A fine low catch by Woodroffe dismissed Anton without an additional run being made. (51.5.0). This series of disasters was almost followed by another. Wood smartly returned a ball to McKenzie, who made a gallant attempt to bring off a catch but without avail, the ball being low and falling just short of him. With Wood and Sercombe Smith in the cricket was livelier. Wood doing most of the scoring and at times making some capital strokes. At 7.5 a bowling change was tried, F. W. Talbot taking the ball from Whiteley, but five runs were scored off his first over. The batsmen continued to exercise much care, doubtless preferring to play a steady game to opening themselves out when the light was getting rather bad. Occasionally very pretty strokes were made, but liberties were never taken. Just three minutes before five o'clock, the time for the drawing of stumps, when everyone thought the batsmen would keep their wickets intact, Wood was caught by Whiteley after a judiciously played innings of 42. It was very unfortunate for the Hongkong team that the pair were separated as they have now only four wickets to fall and a big total to get in order to avert

the follow on. Play commences at ten o'clock sharp this morning.

Scores:—

#### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS: 1st Innings

C. Glassford, c Maitland, b Wood	110
M. H. Whiteley, b Smith	11
R. M. McKenzie, c Vallings, b Smith	11
T. R. Hubback, c Ward, b Smith	2
J. A. Healing, run out	8
Capt. H. Talbot, c Smith, b Wood	81
G. P. Stevens, b Wood	101
A. B. Hubback, b Smith	24
G. C. Curtis, c Anton, b Howard	25
A. J. Woodroffe, R.E., c Anton, b Howard	6
F. W. Talbot, not out	27
Extras	7
	413

#### BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	First Innings.		Runs	Wkts.
	Overs.	Mins.		
J. F. A. Hastings	—	—	49	—
T. Sercombe Smith	33	4	162	4
M. D. Wood, W.Y.R.	31	12	69	3
Rev. G. R. Vallings	12	1	67	—
T. N. Howard	11	1	59	2

#### HONGKONG: 1st Innings.

F. Maitland, b McKenzie	0
G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c and b Whiteley	25
A. G. Ward, run out	14
M. D. Wood, W.Y.R., c Whiteley, b F. Talbot	42
Surg. Lt. Col. Johnston, c and b McKenzie	1
A. S. Anton, c Woodroffe, b McKenzie	0
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	12
Extras	3
	97

Total for 6 wickets 97

#### CRICKET.

##### H.K.C.C. v. WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT.

On 8th Nov. the Hongkong Cricket Club played the West Yorkshire Regiment, the Club winning very easily. Two centuries were made for the Club, but it should be mentioned that each performance was marred by two or three bad hits which ought to have terminated in dismissal. The Club innings was closed with two wickets down for 239. For the Regiment Colonel Gordon played exceedingly well for his 46—the highest score for his side—and he was warmly applauded on his return to the pavilion. The last stage of the game was very exciting. There was one wicket to fall within five minutes of time and when the fourth ball of the last over was bowled a draw seemed to be certain, but with the last ball Cox smashed Ingpen's wickets and the innings closed for 161. For the Club Jillett took three wickets for 41 and Cox four for 25. Ryall's two wickets cost 53 runs.

During the afternoon the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment played some excellent selections of music. Scores:—

#### THE CLUB.

Lieut. Campbell, H.K.R., not out	100
F. Maitland, b Ryall	100
A. G. Ward, c Howard, b Ryall	4
Surg. Lt.-Col. Johnston, A.M.S., not out	23
Extras	7
	239

#### Innings declared closed.

Capt. Langhorne, P. A. Cox, A. Mackenzie, Powell, F. H. Kew, Dewar, and Jillett did not bat.

#### WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT.

Col. Gordon, c and b Cox	46
G. W. Gordon, c Cox, b Gillett	0
M. D. Wood, run out	31
M. Logan, b Mackenzie	0
A. Isaac, c Gillett, b Dewar	4
T. N. Howard, c Maitland, b Gillett	21
C. Ryall, b Gillett	17
J. S. Crowley, c and b Cox	1
F. J. Worsley, b Cox	8
P. L. Ingpen, b Cox	10
F. H. Pellew, not out	6
Extras	18
	161

The five men whose assassination at some point on the Siberian coast has been telegraphed to Tokyo, appear to have met their death at the hands of Manchurians, not of Russians, as was at first reported, says the *Japan Mail*. Everything belonging to the unfortunate men is said to have been stolen. Three of them were natives of Niigata—one of the three being the son of a former member of the Diet for that prefecture—one was a native of Nagasaki, and one belonged to Hokkaido. Their bodies arrived at Matsugasaki on the 20th October, and an inquest was about to be held at the date of latest advices.

#### THE FIFTH GYMKHANA MEETING.

The attendance at the fifth meeting, which was held at the Happy Valley on Saturday, 6th Nov. was not so large as usual, notwithstanding the favourable weather and an interesting programme of events. There were four pony races, all of which furnished interesting sport, a good display of tilting at the ring, and a ladies' nomination event. This last item gave the ladies more opportunity for showing their skill than is usual in nomination events, and consequently there was quite a large number of competitors. The result was awaited with considerable anxiety.

By kind permission of Colonel Gordon and the officers of the West Yorkshire Regiment, the Band of the Regiment, under the direction of Mr. W. G. Bentley, A.R.C.M., played several excellent selections which were much appreciated by everybody present.

The following were the officials:—

Patrons:—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G.; His Excellency Major-General Wilson Black, C.B.; Commodore Swinton C. Holland, A.D.C.

Committee:—The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. Hart Buck, Capt. Burney, R.A.; Messrs. R. M. Gray, V. A. Caesar, Hawkins, T. F. Hough, J. McKie, Capt. Loveband, A.D.C.; Mr. G. C. C. Master, The Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.; Mr. C. H. Nugent, R.E.; Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G.; Mr. G. H. Potts, Commander Taylor, R.N.; The Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Mr. M. D. Wood, W. Y. Regt.

Judges:—The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins.

Handicappers: Messrs. Hart Buck, R. M. Gray, G. C. C. Master.

Timekeeper: Mr. G. H. Potts.

Clerk of the Scales: Mr. J. McKie.

Hon. Secretary:—Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G.

THE KINGSCOTE CUP—A five furlongs handicap for all China ponies. 1st prize presented; 2nd, \$20. Entrance fee \$1 but if left in after 2 p.m. on 2nd November, \$3 in addition.

Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman's Morrison, 10st. 13lbs.	(Mr. Wood)	1
Mr. Grays' Rockhall, 11st. 7lbs.	(Mr. May)	2
Mr. George Potts' Tocsin, 11st. 12lbs.	(Capt. Burney)	+
Mr. Cox's Saucy, 10st. 11lb.	(Mr. Cox)	+
Mr. Bell-Irving's Red Rag, 10st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Gordon)	0
Mr. Forbes' Morvin, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. George)	0

There was some delay at the post and the start was a very poor one. The ponies quickly got into a bunch, Tocsin having a slight lead. In the straight a grand tussle ensued, Morrison coming out ahead followed closely by Tocsin, Rockhall, and Red Rag. Colonel The O'Gorman's pony won by a length and a half. The race between the other three was most exciting, Rockhall getting second by only a neck, while Tocsin and Red Rag divided honours for third place. Time, 1 min. 21 secs.

THE CONSOLATION RACE.—For all beaten China ponies of this season's gymkhanas (winners of polo pony races excepted). Once round the course. Weight for inches. 1st prize, \$50; second, \$20. Entrance fee, \$3.

Mr. Bell-Irving's Red Rag, 10st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Gordon)	1
Mr. Cox's Paddy Bird, 10st. 6lbs.	(Mr. Cox)	2
Mr. Hermit's Wakeful Joe, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Lawford)	3
Mr. Leon's Glendubb, 10st. 10lbs.	(Mr. Courtin)	0
Mr. Potts's Gleneffer, 10st. 10lb.	(Mr. Wood)	0
The Hon. T. H. Whitehead's Vicar, 11st. 4lbs.	(Capt. Burney)	0
Mr. Forbes's Simple Simon, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Gedge)	0

Red Rag was soon to the front and in the straight Paddy Bird made a bold attempt to overtake him, but failed by a head; Wakeful Joe was a good third. Time, 2 mins. 8 secs.

TILTING AT THE RING.—Three runs. Tilting lances provided. 1st prize, a cup presented by George Potts, Esq.; 2nd, three-fourths of the entrance fees. Entrance fee, \$1.



Mr. Moberley	1	Captain Phillips	0
Mr. Landale	2	Mr. Cox	0
Lient.-Col. The O'Gorman.	3	Captain Berger	0
Mr. Drury	0	Mr. De Vitre	0
		Mr. Spencer	0

**A POLO PONY RACE.**—From the 2-mile post in; owners up; catch weights. Ponies must be played at polo regularly to within one week of this meeting. 1st prize, a cup presented by His Excellency Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G. A second prize will be given Entrance fee, \$3.

Captain Barry Drew's The Beast	1
Captain Phillips	0
Captain Burney's Fandango	3
The Hon. T. H. Whitehead's Kingscote	0
Mr. Landale's Parole	0
Mr. Landale's Castor	0
Mr. Gibson's Chin Chin	0
Mr. Gibson's Hercules	0

The ponies kept in a bunch for most of the way, The Beast winning by about half a length.

**LADIES' NOMINATION EVENT.**—A word is given which should be made into as many English Dictionary words as possible by the lady, using any number of letters for each word; four minutes allowed. For instance: "Parties," part, pie, paste, art, tie, it, eat, east, sap, etc., etc. A 5 or 6 letter word will be given. When done with, the nominator gives her card to her nominee, who is on foot: he mounts his pony, rides round a post and back; mafos allowed. Four points will be given for each word and points for nominee's places as they pass the winning post in order; 16 points to 1st, 8 to 2nd, 4 to 3rd. Two prizes. Entrance \$2.

Nominated by	
Lient.-Col. The O'Gorman	Mrs. Ritchie.
(94 points)...	
Mr. Spencer	Mrs. Phillips. (92 points)
Mr. Landale	Mrs. Hawkins (84 points)
Capt. Barry Drew	Mrs. Hall Brutton.
Capt. Phillips	
Mr. Platt	
Capt. Berger	
Mr. Gibson	
Mr. Gordon	
Mr. de Vitre	
Mr. Wood	

The conditions of this event are fully explained above. The word given was "Gather." Out of these six letters one lady made twenty-three words within the prescribed time, a feat which one local Johnsonian avowed he could not beat in a life time. Another lady got very close to that number, but two words had to be struck out, she having written "Hate, Her" twice; but we hope it will not be inferred that what one writes always reflects one's thoughts. The word "tah," which one lady wrote, provoked some discussion as to whether it was a correct word. One gentleman, who has a terrible penchant for Chinese, at once took up the cudgels for the lady and suggested that the word should certainly be allowed on the ground that "tah" was Chinese for "to strike"; whereupon the word was promptly struck out. The competition was interesting and on the whole the caligraphy showed no signs of nervous excitement.

**THE GYMKHANA CUP.**—One mile; for all China ponies. Forced entrance for all winners on the flat during this season's gymkhamas. Weight for inches. First prize, \$100; second, \$25. Entrance fee, \$4.

Mr. Potts's Tocsin, 11st. 4lbs. (Capt. Burney)	1
Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman's, Morrison 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Wood)	2
Mr. Gray's Rockhall, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. May)	3
Mr. Forbes's Morvin, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. Cox's Sancy, 10st. 6lbs. (Owner)	0
The Hon. T. H. Whitehead's Sport, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Head)	0

Tocsin won comfortably by three lengths, half a length being the distance which separated the second and third. Time—2 mins. 11½ secs.

**A BOOT RACE;** for bandsmen of the West Yorkshire Regiment. First prize, \$6; second, \$5; third, \$4; fourth, \$3; fifth, \$2. Entrance free, on ground.

This race was run in semi-darkness.

H.E. the Governor has issued invitations for a dance at Government House on Monday, 15th November.

### GOLD RETURNS FROM EURKA MINE.

Date 1897.	Time crushing.	Tons crushed.	Amalgam.		Retorted gold		Mint return.		Value £ s. d.
			Ozs.	Dwts.	Ozs.	Dwts.	Gold.	Silver.	
	Days								
Mar. 22	5½	86	348	...	124	12	119,040	9 25	461 2 7
April 15	21	160	429	3	158		149,026	13 34	577 3 7
May 3	10	150	404	14	137	14	129,679	10 91	502 3 1
" 29	17	250	401	10	135	13	127,697	12 83	494 13 9
June 12	11	200	287	6	105	3	97,395	9 23	377 4 10
" 26	9	144	219	5	72	5	68,480	6 46	265 4 11
July 12	10	150	200	...	68	6	64,430	6 44	249 11 9
" 26	10½	160	239	...	87	...	78,631	7 92	304 12 3
Aug. 9	10	150	199	10	68	19	63,884	6 43	247 9 6
" 23	11	140	210	18	72	10	67,048	6 74	259 11 3
Sept 20	Plates	...	201	10	59	5	53,553	4 54	207 5 1

### CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

#### LOW LEVEL TRAMWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
SIR,—Having talked over, with a friend, the pros and cons of a low level tramway, I found that he was of opinion that the section of the Queen's Road between the City Hall and the turning down to the Praya at Blue Buildings, along which the tramway would have to pass, was the only obstacle to its construction, for, he thought, the public would be under the impression that it would interfere with other traffic on that stretch of road. On my pointing out that the line might be a double one between West Point and the City and, again, between Blue Buildings and Shaukiwan, West Point and Shaukiwan being the two termini of the line, and the short section between the City Hall and Blue Buildings a single line, along which a car would always be moving, East and West alternately, thus keeping up a constant service and at the same time confining it, on this section, to one line, he was satisfied that no reasonable objection to its construction could be raised, for there would be ample space left on each side of the road for the passing of all other traffic. I mention this as others may, like him, be under the impression that the tramway, if laid, will necessitate a double line along this section of road.

#### TRAMWAY.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1897.

#### THE GYMKHANA MEETING—A QUERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
SIR,—After Saturday's meeting a friend asked me to solve a conundrum, "Why did Red Rag carry 10st. 4lbs.?" and not being able to solve it I thought I would obtain an answer through your columns. According to the official programme his weight is 10.11 and by a rule his rider is allowed 5lbs., making his weight 10.6, and yet he won with 10.4. I am not sufficiently up in racing matters to know whether 2lbs. makes any difference or not, not that this affects the answer. I take it that in racing matters as in other games weights, &c., should be accurate. Perhaps some of your readers may be able to explain the extra 2lbs. allowance and so solve this conundrum for us.  
—Yours faithfully,

X.

Hongkong, 7th November, 1897.

### "SCARE" OR "NO SCARE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."  
SIR,—Just two years ago a somewhat graphic, though concise, account of the imaginary capture of Hongkong by a combined French and Russian force, appeared in your columns. It was copied into the Shanghai and other papers, and though all the leading events leading up to the capture (on paper) of the Gibraltar of the East were quite within the limits of possibility the article was generally considered to be a somewhat foolish attempt at raising an unnecessary scare and that the events prophesied were quite unlikely to occur.

What does a recapitulation of the history of the past two years show? Was the writer a dreamer? Surely time has proved the folly he was guilty of when he penned that absurd screed! It was evidently written hurriedly and without much thought as any reader of the article at that time might have seen; yet strange to say these were as nearly as I can remember the order of events.

Rising of Boers in Transvaal.—We have had the Jameson Raid, and the Boers, since spending a million or two on forts and military stores.

Mahomedan rebellion in India.—We have had that lately, and not yet entirely suppressed, though nearly so.

A serious defeat of the Egyptian troops in the Soudan.—Fortunately we have not had that, though it might well have been so, as has happened before.

War declared by France and Russia.—Latest telegrams from Europe speak of strained relations and danger of collision between French and British troops in West Africa. There are not wanting indications that Russia is preparing for an early and serious forward move in the Far East; she is even coquetting with Japan, probably with intent to allay her fears as to Moscovite intention.

Fortunately all the events mentioned have not come on us at once or matters would have been much more serious, especially had the Mahomedan rebellion in India been more general. In addition to the events noted, Britain has been on the verge of a war with the United States, and the very little foreseen war between Greece and Turkey, which might well have set all Europe ablaze, has been fought out. Since the article in question was written Hongkong has, fortunately, been placed in a much better position to resist an attack. The work on the defences for the south side of the island is progressing, the garrison is to be increased, troops are to be quartered at the Peak, the water supply is to be safe-guarded (if possible), the fleet has been considerably reinforced.

What else? Are the passes over the Kowloon Hills to be fortified?

The old proverb, "to ensure peace be strong enough to resist all attacks," holds good to-day, as ever. Let us hope, then, to be in that fortunate position soon, for we are a peaceful community and want no war.

#### PEACE AT ANY PRICE.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1897.

### THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, have received the following report from their mining managers by the steamer *Airlie*.

Mount Macdonald, 8th October 1897.

Queen Mine, Prospecting Shaft.—Work was resumed in this shaft on the 27th September. At the time of suspending work we had met with a wall 20 feet west of the shaft. Being uncertain as to whether it was the true wall, on resuming work we drove into it a few feet, and being satisfied that it is the main wall of the Queen reef we are now driving on it in country highly mineralised, which may give place to payable stone in a few feet.

Main Shaft—Poppet legs re-erected and stays and brace and everything completed, steam boiler cleaned out and tested, Blake pump to pump water from dam and inject into boiler fixed and works well. Have tried the engine and find it works smoothly and well.

New winding rope on and everything ready to resume sinking on Monday next, the 11th instant.



**Balmoral Mine**—In addition to the two men who are engaged driving the tunnel to cut the True Blue reef there are four parties of two men each prospecting on different portions of the mine. These are working on half pay and share system and are doing good prospecting work and in two cases they have a fair show of succeeding.

#### OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, have received the following report from their mining managers by the steamer *Airlie*—

Mount Macdonald,  
8th October, 1897.

**Eureka Mine**—Main shaft sunk 66 feet below 200 feet level, making a total of 266 ft. from surface. Reef in bottom 6 ft. wide. Ore of usual grade. From a depth of 20 ft. to present depth we have taken the reef out the full width. This, as stated in a previous report, somewhat retarded the progress in sinking, but yielded a large supply of ore, which is now at grass ready to send to the battery. At 253 feet bearers were put in and the shaft timber placed in position, the space behind, from whence the ore already referred to was taken, being filled up with mullock or refuse sent from the surface, so that when we come to work the reef up from the 300 feet level the ore can be all taken out without in any way interfering with the shaft.

**Timber Winze** at 200 feet level sunk 10 feet. Reef 7 feet wide, of fair grade.

**Air and Mullock Shaft** securely timbered and divided and ladder way fixed in air compartment leading into slopes above the 150 feet level. This will be a great convenience in the future working of the mine. We have two men engaged breaking ore in the stopes above the 200 feet level, where the reef is 6 feet wide. Stone here of the usual grade.

**Mining Tenement 18**—On this a small shaft is being sunk in which we expect to strike an off-shoot from the main Eureka reef. It was necessary to do some work on this M. T. and there is every reason to believe that the work will prove remunerative.

**G. L. 105**—The reef in the underlay shaft is over 3 ft. wide between two good walls and prospects about  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of gold per ton, which will when opened up pay well. Present depth 54 feet.

Everything in connection with the mines is in first class order, and large quantities of ore are ready for treatment.

#### GERMAN ACTIVITY IN SOUTH CHINA.

It has been reported very frequently of late that the German naval authorities were making surveys of various parts of the coast of Southern China, with ulterior objects, but all such reports have been as often "officially contradicted." Within the last few months, we know a good deal of attention has been bestowed upon the North China coast, as well, by our Teutonic friends, and it is only quite recently that two of their warships were in Kyao-chao, making very careful and close surveys under the eyes of a special official sent out by the Berlin Government for that purpose. But there is a consensus of opinion that it is Southern China that the Germans are devoting their chief attention to, and the neighbourhood of Amoy has been more than once closely surveyed by various German warships. Once more reports reach us from various sources—all native it must be added—of increased German activity on the coast of Fuhkien, which operations are greatly exciting the native papers. How much truth is in them we do not know, but that they have some foundation, in fact, we are ready to believe, though the Chinese have a strange facility for twisting the truth sadly away. It is said that some months ago a German naval officer, during an interview with the Viceroy of Minche (Fuhkien and Chekiang), hinted at the advisability of the Chinese Government granting the use of certain parts of the coast line of Fuhkien to the German naval and military authorities for the purpose of stationing a German force there in the event of their presence being required in

view of certain contingencies arising respecting Formosa. The Viceroy Pien Pao-chuan seemed to give a half assent to the proposition, and sent a deputy named Li in a steamer to report on the matter and see the place selected, which is a considerable distance from any port open to foreigners. On Li's arrival at the place it was given out that he was making investigations with reference to the tea-tax, lest the people should be disturbed. Li remained there some months, and lately he reported to the Viceroy that a German man-of-war entered the harbour in the district of Funing, without showing her flag, and that he (Li) had called on her officers to ascertain their business. They are reported to have informed him that certain developments, in reference to Formosa, were shortly expected to arise, and that the German Government wished to use the un-opened ports of Erhtu, Santu, Feiluanghing and San-shan in case of necessity for the storing of munitions, and the accommodation of naval forces. The deputy went very minutely into what are said to be the details of the German requests and asked the Viceroy for telegraphic instructions. Upon the receipt of this despatch the Viceroy sent another magistrate named Chien to the Funing district to investigate the strange affair, Chien having a good knowledge of the locality, having last year visited it with some German officers in connection with the settlement of the outrage on the Basle Mission. So important is the matter regarded by the Viceroy that he has declined to have anything further to do with it on his own responsibility, and has addressed a telegraphic despatch to the Tsung-li Yamen asking what the views of the Imperial Government are upon the subject. As we said at the outset we do not know what truth there is in the whole story, but even in China smoke does not twist and swirl upward on the contortions that truth often takes here, without at least a spark of fire. What could be hinted at about Formosa we are quite at a loss to imagine, but that Germany is very anxious to get a foothold of some sort in South China we are quite ready to believe and no one would blame her, for so far she is the only one of the Triple Alliance of 1895, which assisted China against Japan, that has not got either a substantial reward, or at least a shadow, as the French have got. But our private idea is that neither France nor Germany will get anything more than the shadow; Russia have astutely nobbled all that there was to get without creating a general scramble of the Powers which Russia does not want.—*China Gazette*.

#### TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 24th October.

Probably the most important news of the Autumn is that concerning the Trans-Mongolian Railway. It is curious to note how little public attention this has attracted, although its potential gravity exceeds that of all the Reuters of the year put together. It is believed in semi-official circles in Peking that Russia has arranged for a railway across the Gobi from Kiatcha on the Siberian frontier to Kalgan, about 200 miles from Peking. The terms roughly are—that the Northern power shall find the money, make the track, and administer the line for 80 (or 18) years, after which China shall have the option of buying her out. China meanwhile promises to complete the line through the Great Wall to Peking and to establish through connection with such trans-Celestial lines as may be constructed, and she further guarantees protection from Mongol raiders.

When I call this news, let me hasten to add that it is reported news. Well-informed officials here who are cognisant of the more occult currents in the political tides of the capital actually say that the preliminary guarantees have been given. Personally I am disposed to discredit this, but I deem it exceedingly probable that such a project has now been adumbrated and that it will be boldly pushed in the immediate future. The political, strategical, and commercial sequences and bearings of such a railway are so obvious that I need not delate on them.

Russian diplomacy has not been inactive in Northern China since Count Cassini's departure; and indeed there are those who say that his Excellency's furlough has only given a freer hand to Mr. Papillon, the able first Secretary, who was the real originator and mainstay of the Cassini projects. This policy at present consists of multiplying and enhancing Russia's interests in China; of getting into closer educational, military, and trade contact with the Northern provinces, and of slowly instilling into the Chinese mind that Russia's present friendship is indispensable and her future domination inevitable.

The alertness and activity of Russian Agencies up here is incredible: they are omnipresent and indefatigable. Colonel Wogack, the military attaché, now keeps two secretaries fully employed and in his personal movements is as ubiquitous as the hack reporter of an American paper. The local Mining College for Chinese students is being pushed, notwithstanding the masterly inaction of the officials; the language, methods, and experts are to be exclusively Russian. But after all perhaps the most subtle and incisive attempt to spread Russophobia and to deprecate Russophobia is seen in the endeavour to control the new vernacular paper. This journal will not be subsidized in the crude sense of the word, but none the less it will be a platform from which the Great White Czar will be exhibited in his most benign aspect to the Chinese reader. There will be no *backsheesh*, but the paper will circulate largely in Russian territory where Chinese settlers are found, and will be found advocating the unity of interest and destiny of the two peoples.

It may be asked if our folk are showing themselves alive to all this. Well, there is no doubt that Sir Claude MacDonald is kept fairly well informed, and that Downing Street understands that Russia is heeding the infinitely small as well as manipulating the big key-board of diplomacy. The Foreign Office recently communicated to Peking its warm approval of the policy which has resulted in 1,400 mow of land being handed over to the control of the British Municipal authorities in Tientsin. I may here interpolate the flattering remark of a legation official "that in a long experience with the Chinese he had never known anything put through with so much tact and good will, and with so little friction on all sides." We distinctly feel this to be a feather in the cap of the three or four Tientsin gentlemen who so unobtrusively initiated and upheld the policy for which Consul Bristow got all the credit: assuredly he deserved credit, though not a monopoly thereof.

Sir Claude himself manifests the most eager interest in all that concerns his countrymen. He also is seeking to enlarge and strengthen our stake in China. He is at present on a visit to Mr. Claude Kinder at Tongshan, inspecting the result of some fifteen years of hard work by that able engineer. It is suspected that Mr. Kinder is once more the object of a big intrigue, and that the Minister's deliberate manifestation of interest in his work has a significance greater than meets the casual notice. We have his Excellency's own word for saying that on this occasion he is not going South.

This is the eve of the race meeting and our sporting community is tremulous with the excitement of lotteries and anticipation. Last night the Championship lottery reached the aggregate of \$2,100, \$7.00 being offered for Mr. T.H.P.'s stable. These modest numbers are record figures for Tientsin, where the gambling element of racing has always been subordinate.

It may interest Hongkong racing men to know that an enterprising Tientsin owner hopes to go down this winter and try his fortunes in your Olympians. The last time this was done was, I think, in 1892. In the Seventies and early Eighties it was by no means as rare a proceeding as it has since become. I will not assume the mantle of a prophet: horse flesh has a curious tendency to illustrate the slipperiness of the short route twist cup and lip; but if our Tientsin owner does put in an appearance, your men may have to look to it. One of his ponies holds the China record for 1½ miles and the other is supposed to be a phenomenal griffin held back in honour of the occasion.



## MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 4th November.

Yesterday a Chinaman was tried by the Acting Chief Justice on the charge of exposing a dead child in the street, and was on the point of being sentenced, when he appeared to be seized with madness and made a leap through the court window to the pavement below. He fell on his head and was killed instantaneously. Some persons near the window when they saw him making the leap tried to stop him, but the thing was so unexpected and sudden that they had no chance to seize him in time.

Our worthy Acting Postmaster has conferred another benefit on the public, having made a suggestion, which has been adopted by the Government, for the reduction of the rates of postage. We now pay as follows:—To Hongkong and Canton, 2 cents, registration 5 cents; to Europe (Postal Union), 10 cents, registration 5 cents; to China, 5 cents, registration 5 cents. We cannot now complain that we pay more than our neighbours, the rates being, I believe, rather less. A letter box is also to be placed on the *Heungshan* on the 20th November for late letters, so that the public will have every convenience. I hope the old abuse of posting letters with foreign stamps will not be renewed. If it is, and the writers of the letters so posted can be discovered, they should be punished with a heavy penalty.

The Volong quarter, which has hitherto been in the charge of the Government, has been transferred to the Leal Senado.

The fancy fair to be held here on Sunday next in aid of the funds of the Church of St. Laurence promises to be one of the most successful ever held in this Holy City. Numerous contributions of articles for the stalls have been received by the Vicar from Shanghai, Amoy, Japan, etc. As already announced, the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co. will put on a special boat for the occasion and as the weather promises to be fine no doubt there will be many visitors from your port to enjoy the sea trip and aid a deserving object. The church has been rebuilt by the Government, but the furniture and fittings have to be supplied, and as there is no fund available for the purpose the Vicar has had to devise means for raising the required sum. He has accordingly appealed to public generosity, and I am sure the public will not fail to respond. I congratulate the parishioners of St. Laurence and the Director of Public Works, the former upon having a fine Church conveniently situated, and the latter on the completion of the work, though it has taken a long time, and the excellence of the workmanship. Though I have little skill in the art of architecture I must say that the work could not be better and every effort has been made to beautify the edifice.

## CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

As the 4th instant was the birthday of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager a general holiday was observed in official circles. All the officials, military and civil, of every grade, assembled in Man-Shau-Kung to hold a service. All the gunboats in the harbour were decorated with bunting and fired salutes in honour of the occasion.

It is reported that the rice crops in the Canton district and in all the neighbouring districts are exceedingly favourable this season. The weather is very hot and quite different from that usually experienced at this season.

On the 30th ultimo a junk running between Canton and Suntak district was pursued by a long boat belonging to robbers, when she was sailing to a place named Sham-sha. The master of the junk, observing the coming of the boat, shouted out loudly for assistance and a guard boat which was lying near by came up. The robbers, seeing that the opportunity was not favourable, rowed quickly to shore and landed. The lukongs of the guardboat also landed and fired at them. Two robbers were wounded and arrested and one killed. The two prisoners were sent to the Nam-hoi Magistrate, who sentenced them to decapitation.

Some days ago the Magistrate of Nam-hoi summoned all the rice-merchants to his presence. He asked them not to further raise the price of rice and to report the quotations to him every day. The merchants have all promised and the prices in Canton are now cheaper than in Hongkong by about fifty cents a picul.

The charitable institutions have received instructions from the Viceroy to devise steps to prevent the illegale export of rice from Canton to foreign countries, for in spite of existing restrictions a large quantity of rice is still smuggled out every day. It has been discovered that the rice is first smuggled from Chan-chuen to Tse-lai-kwan and thence to Macao.

On the 26th ultimo a band of robbers made an attack on a village named Wa-lai in Sham-shui district. The village was strongly fortified. When the robbers approached, the lukong on duty beat the drums to give the alarm. A good number of villagers at once rushed forward with their weapons. At the entrance of the village there were two cannon, which some villagers tried to fire, but the guns exploded and three villagers were instantly killed. The robbers, seeing that the village could not be attacked by surprise, retired.

## HONGKONG.

The interport cricket week commenced on Monday, when the first match, Straits Settlements v. Hongkong, was started. The Straits inflicted a single innings defeat on the local team, the match being concluded as early as 2.45 yesterday afternoon. The Straits made 413 and Hongkong only made 334 in both their ventures. On Monday the Legislative Council celebrated the opening of this great sporting event by holding a long meeting. The fifth gymkhana meeting was held on Saturday at the Happy Valley and was a great success. An interesting champerty case, which has occupied a considerable portion of the Police Magistrate's time, was concluded on Monday, the two defendants being convicted.

There were 2,396 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 171 were Europeans.

The Chinese gunboats in the harbour were decorated on 4th November in honour of the Empress Dowager's birthday.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited, notify that an interim dividend of 50 cents per share will be payable on and after the 25th November.

A thief was on 3rd November sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour for snatching a pair of trousers from a house in Ice House Street.

The members of the Baxter Mission beg to thank all the ladies who so very kindly helped at their "Sale of Work" and to inform them that the amount taken was \$1,075.

The owner of a boarding house who gave evidence in the champerty case on 5th Nov. created no little surprise by remarking that, being a business man, he could not be expected to remember dates.

A Chinaman was on 5th Nov. fined \$25 for collecting a number of Wai-sing lottery books from different shops in Queen's Road Central, and the money found in his possession amounting to \$11.30 was ordered to be confiscated.

At the Police court on 3rd Nov. a large number of persons were charged with being in possession of prepared opium without a licence. Fines ranging from \$10 to \$100 were imposed, but in most of the cases the offenders could not meet the penalties inflicted and had to go to gaol.

H.M.S. *Undaunted* will leave Hongkong for Amoy and the North on the 11th inst. The *Centurion* will be here in about a fortnight's time and will probably be accompanied by the *Alacrity* with Admiral Buller on board. The Admiral's boat left Shanghai on the 4th instant and on her way down to Amoy, where the *Centurion* is at present, she will probably call at other ports.

At the Police Court on 3rd Nov., Lan Un, a cook, was charged with abstracting from the pocket of his master, Lan Chong, a merchant at 352, Queen's Road Central, \$4,850 in bank notes. The prisoner, who pleaded guilty, committed the theft while his master was taking his evening bath on Tuesday. Fortunately the accused was shortly afterwards arrested and the whole of the stolen money was recovered, with the exception of \$4. He was committed for trial at the sessions.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Gerald Slade, which occurred at the Peak Hospital at eight p.m. on 4th November. Mr. Slade was a partner in the firm of Gilman and Co., and was the only son of Major-General H. D. Slade. He was forty-six years of age.

Four new-comers from Canton went out for a stroll on 3rd November, and in their wanderings got quite close to the kitchen of the Victoria Barracks. They were arrested for trespassing on War Department ground and at the Police court they were each fined \$10 or one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

On Wednesday afternoon a piece of Crown land, Marine Lot No. 2 at Hunghom, containing 200,750 square feet, was sold by auction by Mr. Malsch, Superintendent of Crown Lands. The annual rental is \$1,508 and the upset price was \$60,225. The lot was bought by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company for \$60,250, or \$25 above the upset price.

Leung Shun, a cook at No. 31, Temple Street, Yanmat, was on the night of the 2nd instant seriously injured in the chin and the right arm by Wong Fuk, a boatman, who assaulted him with a chopper. The Police Magistrate on 3rd Nov. sentenced the prisoner to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour and also bound him over in one surety of \$50 to be of good behaviour for three months.

Surg-Col. Evatt, P.M.O., has kindly offered to give a course of ambulance lectures, for men only, in the Kowloon Institute, on Wednesdays at 8 p.m., commencing next Wednesday, the 10th. These lectures are intended specially for the mercantile marine, but all who are interested are heartily invited. There are seats for 300 in the Institute, and it is hoped there will be large attendances.

The fête held in the grounds of the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Thursday night in aid of the funds of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was most successful and the Society must have been benefited considerably, as we understand a thousand tickets were sold and the receipts were also augmented by the shooting galleries and the sale of fancy work. The evening was an ideal one for an outdoor function and all present appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The grounds were prettily illuminated.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that the following telegram has been received giving the result of the October clean-up:—"The mill ran 30 days crushing 117 tons of ore yielding 29 ozs. of smelted gold. 1,900 tons of headings crushed yielding 142 ozs. The Berlian pans treated 45 tons of concentrates for a yield of 20 ozs. of gold. The cyanide plant worked 25 days treating 700 tons of tailings yielding 265 ozs. of bullion of an average assay value of 15.16 per ounce."

By the *Thames* on 4th Nov. Lient. Colonel Faithfull, late of the Hongkong Regiment, left for Bombay. Mrs. Faithfull and Miss Tindal left by the same steamer and will tranship at Colombo into the connecting steamer for London. A large number of friends assembled on the wharf and on board to say good-bye to the gallant Colonel and the ladies of his family and the Band of the Regiment was in attendance to play them off with "Anld Lang Syne" and other airs. Colonel Faithfull during his residence in Hongkong has been popular both in military and civilian circles and his departure is widely regretted. Major Ketallick is now in command of the Regiment.

On the 4th Nov. a meeting of the Sanitary Board, at which all the members were present, was held at the offices for the purpose of repealing a by-law made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894 and substituting a new one. The by-law was referred back to the Sanitary Board owing to an objection which was taken by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council to the definition of a street, and at the meeting yesterday the Medical Officer of Health said the definition in the new by-law would exclude a square or court and include a street, road, lane, or passage, whether thoroughfare or not. This was the only alteration in the by-law. On the motion of the President seconded by Mr. Ede, it was resolved to repeal the old by-law and to make the new by-law, which would be transmitted to the Colonial Secretary for the approval of the Legislative Council.



The death of Mr. J. B. Grimes from paralysis of the heart is recorded in the *Bangkok Times* of the 21st October. The deceased was well known in Hongkong, where he was, up to about two years ago, one of the most accomplished and at the same time most popular oarsmen in the colony. He was one of the Irish crew which won the International contest at the V. R. C. Regatta in 1894, and his death at the age of twenty-seven will cause much regret in sporting circles here.

Mr. J. H. Logan, preventive officer of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, saw a Chinaman, on the 3rd instant, going on board the s. s. *Fatshan* carrying a jar. The movements of the Chinaman were rather suspicious, and Mr. Logan asked him what was in the jar. The reply was, "Cakes." On being opened, it was found to contain dynamite with a layer of cakes on the top. The delinquent was on 4th Nov. fined \$75 with the alternative of six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

The chit system in its relation to Thomas's Grill Rooms again cropped up at the Supreme Court on 5th inst., when another action was mentioned. In the first case a settlement had been arrived at and in the case brought forward yesterday Mr. Holmes applied for an adjournment as a settlement was probable. Mr. Justice Wise said he had remarked on the system of signing chits for drinks in a house which had only an adjunct licence simply to let the police know what was going on. He had seen from the papers that the proprietor of the Grill Rooms was applying for a publican's licence. The case was therefore adjourned.

The drain which promoted such a delightful game of hide and seek for purblind Government officials was a blessing in disguise. If it had not been discovered—somebody said invented—by the public we should all have been blissfully ignorant of the whited sepulchre embodied in the form of the new Praya, but now that there is no doubt that the choked-up unknown drain did exist it is likely, thanks, we understand, to our new Director of Public Works, that the whole of the Praya will undergo a thorough overhaul. Should the search end in other pudding bag drain being unearthed the public may, we think, rest assured that the nuisances will be promptly removed.

On 5th November a court martial was held on the *Victor Emanuel*, the accused being Montague A. Penfold, assistant paymaster in charge of H.M.S. *Humber*. He was charged with misappropriating public money to the amount of about £30. The Court was composed of Captain Clarke, H.M.S. *Undaunted* (President), Commander Sparks, H. M. S. *Limmet*, Commander Kingsmill, H. M. S. *Archer*, Commander Henderson, H.M.S. *Tamar*, and Commander Taylor, H.M.S. *Tamar*. Mr. Lawford, the Commodore's Secretary, was Judge Advocate, and the prisoner's friend was Mr. Wallace, assistant paymaster. The charge was proved and the prisoner was sentenced to lose eighteen months' seniority and to be dismissed his ship.

Recommendations made by the Wongneichong Recreation Ground Committee and a new set of regulations made by the Governor in Council for the management of the ground are published in the *Gazette*. The Hongkong Football Club is to have a new ground within the extension and is to have the sole use of it. It is recommended that a cinder running track be formed by the Government round this football ground, the track to be available on such days as may be arranged with the Football Club. No bicycling is to be allowed on the running track except on the occasion of club sports; in fact bicycle riding, like pony riding, is prohibited on the whole of the Recreation Ground. There was talk some time ago of forming a bicycle track, and a petition on the subject was prepared, but bicyclists not being an organised body their interests have apparently not been considered by the Committee. It is recommended that the Ladies' Golf Club be accorded permission to erect a mat-shed on the ground. It is understood by the Committee that the Ladies' Club has permission to play over the course of The Royal Hongkong Golf Club during certain parts of the day; the area is too restricted to admit of the laying out of two golf courses within it. The Committee recommends that an application by the Kowloon Football Club, the nature of which is not stated, be refused.

Mr. Justice Leach lost a pair of binoculars on Sunday evening. He reported the matter instantly to the Police saying that he thought they might have been forgotten in a chair he had taken from the tramway terminus at the Peak. A Chinese constable went into the chair coolies' boarding house there and promised the coolie who should produce the binoculars a reward. They were produced and the unfortunate coolie was at once arrested. At the Magistracy on Monday the binoculars were returned to Mr. Justice Leach, the chair coolie was discharged, and the Chinese Constable severely rebuked for promising the coolie a reward.

On 4th Nov. at 12.50 p.m., as the steam-launch *Elsie*, belonging to Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., was leaving the steamer *Zafiro*, she was run into by the ferry launch *Morning Star*, and the damages she sustained were of so serious nature that in spite of the gallant efforts made to beach her, she sank when about 40 yards off the shore, opposite Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s premises. Fortunately no lives were lost. On Monday Hon. Commander Rumsey, Harbour Master, held an inquiry at the Harbour Office concerning the collision. The evidence showed that the accident occurred through an error of judgment on the part of the master of the *Elsie* in giving way to No. 1 Dock launch, and his certificate was suspended for two months, while the master of the *Morning Star* also had his certificate suspended for a like period for not displaying better seamanship.

Two women named Chan Hi and Wong Mui were brought before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on 3rd Nov. charged with being in possession of one revolver and 1,160 rounds of ammunition without a licence. They were seen by a watchman trying to convey the articles on board the steamer *Honam*, and were arrested by him. P.C. Leung Ping Chok, who was also present, wished to secure the credit of the seizure to himself, and told the Magistrate yesterday a cock and bull story which failed to stand the test of a close examination, and the Magistrate gave him a severe rebuke. The women, on being asked what they had to say, replied with tears in their eyes that they had been sent by the elders of their village to get arms and ammunition from Hongkong for a fight between their village and another village. They had been threatened that if they did not return with weapons they would be banished. The Magistrate fined each of them \$50 or in default six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour. The revolver and cartridges were ordered to be confiscated.

At the Police Court on Saturday, Ip Yeung, an interpreter in the employ of the Sanitary Board, was charged with obtaining money by false pretences. According to the evidence for the prosecution, some time in March last Tong Shan, a stonecutter at Hunghom, and three others were served with notices to erect sties for their pigs. They did so, but the sties did not meet with the approval of the Inspector then in charge, and they had to be rebuilt, but with no better result. Tong Shan then went to the defendant and asked him why the Inspector was dissatisfied with the sties. Ip Yeung told him he ought to make the Inspector a present. The stonecutter bought about \$6 worth of capons, eggs, and other eatables and asked defendant to give them to the Inspector. He was told he ought also to buy a bottle of whisky. He gave the interpreter \$1, and when the whisky was bought they proceeded together to the Inspector's house, but the gifts were not accepted, and they were then taken to defendant's house. The defendant told the stonecutter to bring him \$10 for the Inspector and he would then arrange to have the matter properly settled. The money was brought, but nothing was done. The defendant after a while told Tong Shan that a further sum of \$6 was required. The stonecutter handed over the money, but not before he had pawned a jacket to raise his share of the money. When Inspector Macdonald took over the district and summoned the pig keepers for not having a licence the transaction leaked out. The case was remanded till today, bail being allowed in two sureties of \$250 each.

The hon. treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Kwong Fook Company	...	...	\$25
Yeung Nai on	...	...	20
Compradore, Douglas Lapraik & Co.,	...	...	10
Che Si Ping	...	...	10
Wong Yue Chuen	...	...	10
Chan Tak Sing Tong	...	...	10
On account of "Hospital Sunday"			
Baptist Mission Chinese Church	...	...	8.50
Fung Shing Loong	...	...	5
Shen Cheong	...	...	5
Kwong Cheong Loong	...	...	5
Kwok Choi Fung	...	...	5
Compradore, Marty & Co.	...	...	5
Scheele & Co.	...	...	5
Ho Yue Tin	...	...	5
On Hing	...	...	5
Chit Wo	...	...	5
Wing Cheong Chan	...	...	5
Chun On Wing	...	...	5
Shing On	...	...	5
Fook Loong	...	...	5
Wong Kee	...	...	5
Kung Yuen	...	...	5
Fook Luen Yue	...	...	5
Lam Pang Po	...	...	5
Yue Shing Shun	...	...	5
Tai Shing	...	...	5
On Fat Wing	...	...	5
Sun Tung Cheong	...	...	5
Kwong Fung Wq	...	...	5
Him Yuen	...	...	5
Man Cheung Yuen	...	...	5
Shin Fook Company	...	...	5
Sums under \$5	...	...	175

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

According to the *Nagasaki Press* a telegram from Bakan states that the *Yedo Maru* has been in collision with the German steamer *Gerda*, while the latter was at anchor. The *Gerda* was slightly damaged, but she will repair and proceed to her destination.

Hankow has lost its oldest resident by the death of Mr. M. A. Jenkins, who expired at that port on the 20th of October. Mr. Jenkins had been Interpreter at the United States Consulate for thirty-one years, and was besides engaged in mercantile business, having agencies at Ichang and Chungking. The father of Mr. M. A. Jenkins was a well-known missionary in the very early days of Shanghai, where he established a printing press, and the son, who was born in South Carolina, came out with his father and studied Chinese at Shanghai, but took advantage of Hankow being opened in 1861 to establish himself in business there, and that port has been his constant place of residence ever since. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Hankow, a large number of the late Mr. Jenkins' friends being present on the occasion.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The earthquake at Sandakan on 21st Sept. was, as most people surmised (says the *British North Borneo Herald*), but the distant effect of a far more terrible disturbance elsewhere. Sulu appears to have been the *fons et origo* of the seismic wave. Zamboangan, the penal settlement of Mindanao, but a well-laid-out town with stone and brick buildings, has been levelled to the ground, with, happily, slight loss of life. Port Isabella, however, the Spanish Naval Station, has fared much worse. A tidal wave estimated as 35 feet high above the sea level, swept over the devoted settlement and besides demolishing houses, cracking the walls of forts, etc., caused the deaths of a large number of persons, but we have as yet no definite accounts of the actual loss. It would be convenient for North Borneo if the Sulu Archipelago could be moved a few hundred miles eastward.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	4,919,452	4,951,010
Shanghai and Hankow	11,366,685	16,200,152
Foochow	11,85,203	11,953,589
Amoy	594,709	521,605
	28,666,101	33,626,356

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	19,424,560	22,049,123



## EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	15,514,538	12,766,874
Amoy	10,729,432	12,622,531
Foochow	5,897,972	5,426,028
	32,141,942	30,815,436

## EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,351,959	21,473,889
Kobe	13,506,618	10,447,354
	36,858,577	31,921,243

## SILK.

SHANGHAI, 5th October. (From Messrs. A. R. Butkill & Sons' Circular).—London advises quote Gold Kilin 9/7½, Blue Elephants 10/8, market quiet. Raw Silk.—Transactions are again small, but owing to the weakness of exchange, especially 'forward,' there has been some enquiry, and we believe some offers made for delivery one to two months hence. Some medium and low grade Woozies have been taken at full rates, and about 100 bales Yellow Silks, probably all for Asiatic markets. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 28th October to 3rd November, 47 bales White, 239 piculs Yellow, and 122 piculs Wild Silks. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows: to America 2,558 bales, to Continent 2,037 bales, to London 16 bales, and to Japan 4 bales. Waste Silks.—Very small transactions. We quote No. 1 Honan Tls. 64½.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/6½; Freight Tls. 7/80 per bale:—

	Tls.	Stg.
	per	per
	picul.	lb.
Tsatees.—Silver Double Elephant	457½	10/2
" Gold Kilin	455	10/1½
Taysam.—9 by 12 Moss Double Butterfly 2	400	8/11½
" " Green Stork 3	400	8/11½
" " " 4	347½	7/10
Yellow Silk.—Mienchow	320 a 325	7/2½ a 7/3½
" Szechong	230	6/3½

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	29,946	22,409
Canton	13,032	13,705
Yokohama	9,288	3,676
	52,266	39,790

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	5,304	634
Canton	6,884	1,144
Yokohama	13,003	3,274
	24,891	5,52

HONGKONG, 9th November.—The market is not quite so firm as last re.orted. Quotations for Famosa are nominally \$18.25 to \$18.50 Sales, 280 piculs.

## SILK.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—The market is still weak and prices have further declined. Quotations are:—  
Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.27 to 7.30 per picul.  
do. " 2, White... 6.87 to 6.90 "  
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...\$4.60 to 4.63 "  
do. " 2, Brown... 4.49 to 4.52 "  
Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.20 to 7.23 "  
do. " 2, White... 6.77 to 6.80 "  
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.57 to 4.60 "  
do. " 2, Brown... 4.45 to 4.50 "  
Soochow Sugar Candy...11.10 to 11.12 "  
Shekloong " " 9.68 to 9.72 "

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Macduff*, sailed on the 1st Nov. For New York:—1,303 packages cassia, 116 bales canes, 40 bales rattanore, 8 cases chinaware, and 1012 packages merchandise.

Per Am. ship *Governor Robie*, sailed on the 3rd November. From Hongkong to New York:—18,449 rolls matting, 2,505 cases palmleaffans, 1,300 bales cassia lignea, 1,000 bales broken cassia, 400 cases preserves, 106 bales rattanore, 63 cases blackwoodware, 45 packages canes, and 15 cases paper.

Per steamer *Thames*, sailed on the 4th Nov. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For London:—66 boxes tea, from Foochow, 43 bales raw silk, 9 cases silk piece goods, 6 packages personal effects, and 454 boxes tea. For France:—591 bales raw silk, 66 bales pierced cocoons, 15 cases silk piece goods.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—Bengal.—There has not been much change during the past week. The market is slightly weaker, owing to a further improvement in the exchange, closing at \$702½ for New Patna and \$707½ for New Benares.

Malwa.—New descriptions have kept steady whilst Old have receded in value. Current quotations are as under:—

New (this yr's) \$780 with allowance of 2 to 3 cts.  
" (last " ) \$800 " " 1 to 1½ "  
Old (2/5 " ) \$320 " " 2 to 2½ "  
" (6/12 " ) \$860 " " 1½ to 1¾ "

Persian.—A very small business has passed in this drug during the interval. Prices are lower owing to the rise in the exchange, latest figures being \$490 to \$670 for Oily, and \$550 to \$590 for Pap r-wrapped drug according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—  
New Patna. ....1,043 chests.  
New Benares ..... 526 "  
Malwa ..... 300 "  
Persian ..... 590 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 4	710	—	710	—	780/800	820/860
Nov. 5	712½	—	712½	—	780/800	820/860
Nov. 6	710	—	712½	—	780/800	820/860
Nov. 7	710	—	712½	—	780/800	820/860
Nov. 8	706½	—	707½	—	780/800	820/860
Nov. 9	702½	—	707½	—	780/800	820/860

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—Supplies are now coming forward freely and there has been a further heavy fall in prices. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.65 to 2.68  
" Round, good quality..... 2.92 to 2.95  
" Long ..... 2.97 to 3.00  
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 ..... 2.65 to 2.70  
" Garden, " No. 1 ..... 3.00 to 3.05  
" White..... 4.05 to 4.08  
" Fine Cargo ..... 4.15 to 4.20

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—75 bales No. 6 at \$78 to \$83, 30 bales No. 8 at \$80, 570 bales No. 10 at \$84 to \$91½, 350 bales No. 12 at \$37 to \$92½, and 745 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$105. *Japanese Yarn*.—25 bales No. 10 at \$86½, 25 bales No. 20 at \$100. *Grey Shirtings*.—300 pieces 8½ lbs. Lion and Arrow at \$2.86, 300 pieces 8½ lb. Red Fish at \$2.95. *T-Cloths*.—1,125 pieces Mexican Red Stag at \$2.42½. *Drills*.—150 pieces Large E gle at \$5, 150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.45. *Spanish Stripes*.—60 pieces BBB assorted at \$0.61½.

METALS.—Tin.—100 slabs Foong Chai at \$39½.

COTTON YARN. per bale  
Bombay—Nos 10 to 20s. .... 78.00 to 108.00  
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....116.00 to 123.00  
" 22 to 24.....118.00 to 124.00  
" 28 to 32.....125.00 to 130.00  
" 38 to 42.....138.00 to 145.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS. per piece  
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. .... 1.80 to 1.90  
7lbs. .... 2.10 to 2.80  
8.4 lbs. .... 2.60 to 3.30  
9 to 10 lbs. .... 3.50 to 4.25  
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.45 to 2.65  
58 to 60 " 2.90 to 3.55  
64 to 66 " 3.65 to 4.50  
Fine ..... 4.50 to 7.40  
Book-folds. 3.80 to 6.00  
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.67 to 1.35  
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. 1.55 to 1.75  
7lbs. (32 " ) " 1.95 to 2.20  
6lbs. (32 " ) Mexs. 1.75 to 1.90  
7lbs. (32 " ) " 2.20 to 3.00  
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) 2.45 to 3.30  
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 3.85 to 5.25  
14lbs. ....

## FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 7lbs. } 1.45 to 4.00  
Brocades—Dyed ..... 4.00 to 4.75 per yard  
Damasks..... 0.12 to 0.16  
Chintzes—Assorted ..... 3.08 to 0.14  
Velvets—Black, 22 in..... 0.24 to 0.32  
Velveteens—18 in. .... 0.18 to 0.21 per dozen

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.50 to 0.90 per yard

Woolle's Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.62 to 1.30  
German ..... 1.15 to 1.50

Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. 1.45 to 5.25 per piece

Long Ells—Scarlet ..... 7.15 to 9.00  
Assorted ..... 7.25 to 9.25

Camlets—Assorted ..... 14.00 to 35.00  
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, } 12.00 to 22.00  
Assorted }

Orleans—Plain ..... 3.60 to 4.50 per pair

Blankets—8 to 12lbs. .... 5.70 to 12.00

METALS per picul  
Iron—Nail Rod ..... 4.30 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.30 to —

Swedish Bar ..... 5.90 to —

Small Round Rod ..... 4.80 to —

Hoop ..... 5.75 to —

Wire ..... 9.60 to —

Old Wire Rope ..... 1.50 to 3.00

Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.65 to —

Australian..... 8.65 to —

Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/28 oz. 81.00 to —

Vivian's, 16/32 oz. 30.50 to —

Elliot's, 16/28 oz. 30.50 to —

Composition Nails ..... — to —

Japan Copper, Slabs ..... — to —

Tiles ..... — to —

Tin ..... — to —

Tin-Plates ..... 6.10 to — per box.

Steel..... 5.75 to — per cwt. case

SUNDRIES per picul  
Quicksilver ..... 124.00 to —

Window Glass ..... 8.90 to — per box

Kerosene Oil ..... 1.95 to — per 10-gal. case

SHANGHAI, 4th November.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co's. Piece Goods Trade Report)—

Business has been 'o slack here for the past two months that the majority of those engaged in this trade seem to have taken full advantage of the opportunity afforded by the Autumnal Baza holidays of securing a little recreation, and after the trying times they have gone through no one can grudge it them. But although business, so far as actual transactions are concerned has continued as bad as can be, there are signs of an early revival in the shape of a demand from the Northern markets. These are reported to be in an exceptionally healthy state and orders, accompanied by the necessary funds, are said to be already here. Buying is being delayed until the last moment in order to secure every advantage, but with the present outlook for Exchange further delay is anything but promising. No doubt, therefore, within the next few days the enquiries that have been more frequent recently will be accounted for, and it will be possible to quote more business doing in our next. In the meanwhile, the tightness in the native money market may account to some extent for the delay in commencing operations, as the merchants are able to employ their money profitably here in the way of short loans. The Ewo Auction was suspended yesterday, and, as the Yuen-fong sale to-day was considerably reduced in quantity, the rise in prices there is sufficiently accounted for. As regards the home market, Manchester does not respond as rapidly as might be expected, to the decline in Cotton, and prices for the most part remain out of reach of would-be operators here, even with Exchange at current rates, but 8 to 10 per cent out at the forward quotations offered at present.

## EXCHANGE.

TUESDAY, 9th November.

ON LONDON.—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 1/10½  
Bank Bills, on demand ..... 1/10½  
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ..... 1/11  
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... 1/11½  
Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 1/11½  
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½



ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.40
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.44½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.94½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	46½
Credits, 60 days' sight	47½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146½
Bank, on demand	147
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146½
Bank, on demand	147
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	7 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	5 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.30
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53½

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 9th November.—A steady market with but few changes in rates and the business confined chiefly to Mining stocks are the chief features of the week under review.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continue in demand in small lots at 180 to 181 per cent. prem., whilst larger lots are obtainable at the former rate. Nationals have changed hands at \$23 and could probably still be obtained at that rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Continue dull and neglected without any business to report, and rates remain unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Are still very quiet and more or less out of the market. Hongkongs have found small buyers at \$367½ and Chinas at \$107½, closing with sellers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled rather steadier with small sales at \$30 and an unsatisfied demand for February at \$31 and \$31½, although at time of closing sales are reported at \$29½. Indo-Chinas have found further buyers at \$51½ and close steady at that rate. Douglasses have changed hands at \$58 and \$57½ and close steady at former rate. China Manilas with small sales and China Mutuals without business but firm at quotation.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue to rule firm and in demand; shares have changed hands during the week at \$155, \$155½, \$156, \$156½, \$157, and \$158, closing firm at latter rate. Some shares could be placed forward at a little better than equivalent rates, but holders will not part at the moment, expecting higher rates. Luzons have again been negotiated at \$42 and close with small sales at \$43.

MINING.—Punjoms have continued weak with little or no business at \$4 and \$3.75, closing at \$3.90 with sellers. The October crushing just to hand shows a total result of about 245 oz. smelted gold. Charbonnages have changed hands at \$100, but more shares could be placed at the rate, or probably at \$105, and none are on offer under \$115, at which latter rate a very small sale has been effected during the week. New Balmorals have ruled steady with fair sales at \$1.30 and \$1.40 for ordinaries and at \$1.40 to \$1.50 for preferences, closing steady at the higher rates. Olivers have been stronger and sales effected at \$8 and \$8.25 for B's and \$20 for A's, market closing steady at \$8.10 and \$20. Jebebus have found buyers at quotation and close steady. Raubs have continued firm and in demand, the rate gradually rising to \$23½ after fair sales at \$21½, \$22, \$22½, \$22½, and \$23; at time of closing shares are still enquired for at \$23½ without finding sellers. The September and October crushing is expected to-morrow. Great Easterns and Caledonians fully paid up shares have found buyers at \$6, and \$2½ paid up at \$2.90, market closing with sellers at both rates.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue abnormally quiet and without business. Kowloon Wharves are also almost totally neglected. Wanchais remain out of the market. Sellers of all stocks under this heading rule the market at time of closing.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been negotiated at \$75 and

close quiet at that rate. Kowloon Lands have found buyers in small lots at quotation. Hotels have changed hands in unimportant lots at \$48, closing with probable sellers at that rate. West Points continue steady to strong with sales at \$1.14, and Humphreys Estates have found buyers at \$9½, closing with further sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Sales of Green Islands are reported at the slightly reduced rates of \$30½ and \$15½ (old and new). Watsons have changed hands at \$12½ and are still obtainable at that rate. Electricians continue to be negotiated in small lots at \$10½. Ropes and Fenwicks have changed hands at quotations. In Cotton Mills a few Ewos have been transacted at Tls. 111, but more shares are obtainable at the rate. Other Cotton stocks have ruled neglected and quiet.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	180 % prem. =
China & Japan, pri.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£3 10s	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	55.5s., buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	23, sales
Founders Shares	£1	23, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	5½, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co	\$1	4.75, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	158, sales & buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 111
Hongkong	20	18, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 119, ex div.
Lau Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 114
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 575
Yahloong	Tls. 70	Tls. 72
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$4.75, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	28 25, sales
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$10½, ex. N.I., sel.
Do. New Issue	\$2½	\$15½
H. & China Bakery	\$50	33, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	1½, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	112, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	48, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	113
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	53, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	170, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$226 p. ct. prem. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$57½, sal. & sellers
China Fire	\$20	107
China Traders'	\$25	53, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$367½
North-China	\$25	Tls. 148, buyers
Straits	\$20	518½, sellers
Union	\$25	\$23½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$155, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	575, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	9.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	9, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	21½, sales
Luzon Sugar	\$100	543, sales & buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$ 05, buyers
Great E. & C'donian	\$	6, sales
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$2.90, sal. & sellers
Jebebu	\$5	22.20, sales
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.40, sal. & buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50, sal. & buyers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	20
Do. B.	\$2½	\$5.10, sal. & sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$3.90, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.40
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$23½, sales & sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$18, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$77, sales & sellers
China Mutual Ord.	£5	£2 15s. buyers
Do. Preference	£10	£7 10s. buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$57½, sal. & buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$9½, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$51, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$2, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$44½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12½, sales & sellers

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 5th November.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—Since the issue of our last report, the Rice Holidays have intervened, and but a small business has been transacted. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares were placed locally at 186 per cent premium, and to Hongkong at 185 per cent. and business was done for December delivery

at 190 per cent premium. We quote 185 per cent premium as the closing cash rate. There is no change to report in other Bank shares. Marine Insurance.—A sale of North-Chinas at Tls. 200 is reported. Fire Insurance.—Chinas were placed to Hongkong at \$107, with exchange 75. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have been in demand, chiefly for Hongkong. Shares changed hands locally at Tls. 37½ to Tls. 38, and were placed to Hongkong at \$51, at which price shares are still wanted. Sugar Companies.—China Sugar Refining shares were sold locally at \$158, and to Hongkong at \$155 with exchange 74, which is equal to \$158 with exchange 73. For December, business was done at \$163. The reports from the Luzon sugar Refinery are good, and shares are wanted at \$39. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$22. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai Engineering and Dock shares were sold at Tls. 90, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tls. 120. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares changed hands at Tls. 90. Industrial.—Ewo shares have been placed at Tls. 112½ and Tls. 112. International Cotton Manufacturing Co. No business is reported in the stock this week. Laukung-mow shares were placed at Tls. 115, and China Flour Mills at Tls. 60. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 88 cash and Tls. 90½ for the 30th current. Shanghai-Langkats were sold at Tls. 440 and Tls. 42½ cash and Tls. 525 for the 31st March. A sale of Hall & Holtz shares at \$38½ is reported.

## TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 5th November (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report.)—Rates of freight, and homeward business generally, have remained unchanged during the past two weeks, and while London rates are likely to remain steady, any increase in tonnage for New York via Suez will bring about a most undesirable fall in rates; otherwise the tendency in this direction seems to be upwards if anything, 27s. 6d. being named for the next vessel to load. For New York via Cape.—Since the departure of the *Helen Brewer* on the 25th ultimo the *Drumellan* has had the berth to herself, and, being fully engaged, expects to leave here on the 15th instant for Hongkong, for a short stay there to complete her loading. There is now no available tonnage. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 17s; nominal, no tonnage available. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 3 cents per lb. silk, \$12 per ton strawbraid; New York via Suez, 25s. per ton general cargo, 25s. tea; Boston, 32s. 6d. per ton general cargo; Philadelphia, 32s. 6d. per ton general cargo. Coast rates:—Moji to Shanghai \$1.20 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.20 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe 27 cents; Newchwang to southern ports, 28½ cents; Wuhu to Canton, 16 cents.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Sunda* (str.), *Kintuck* (str.), *Teucer* (str.), *Manila* (str.), *Menelaus* (str.), *Ancona* (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*New York*, *Doric* (str.).  
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—*Dromellan*, *Abner Coburn* (str.), *Agenor*, *Cromarty* (str.), *Saint Mark*.  
For BALTIMORE.—*St. Katherine* (str.).  
For BATTLE.—*Kugoshima Maru* (str.).  
For PORTLAND.—*Lombard* (str.).  
For AUSTRALIA.—*Omi Maru* (str.), *Chingtu* (str.).  
For MARSEILLES.—*Wakasa Maru* (str.), *Wally* (str.).



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

## November— ARRIVALS.

- 3, Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
- 4, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Swatow.
- 4, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
- 4, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
- 4, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
- 5, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
- 5, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
- 5, Activ, Danish str., from Hongay.
- 5, Picciola, German str., from Singapore.
- 5, Telena, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Bygdo, German str., from Saigon.
- 5, Pronto, German str., from Canton.
- 5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Pyrrhus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 5, Peter Rickmers, Ger. sh., from New York.
- 5, Teenkai, British str., from London.
- 5, Cosmopolit, German str., from Swatow.
- 6, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
- 6, Sherard Osborne, British str., from Macao.
- 6, Nanyang, German str., from Coast Ports.
- 6, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
- 6, Amara, British str., from Samarang.
- 6, Tallee, German str., from Saigon.
- 6, Palinurus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 6, Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok.
- 6, Hermes, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
- 6, Hohenzollern, German str., from Nagasaki.
- 7, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
- 7, Germania, German str., from Morovan.
- 7, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
- 7, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
- 7, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Terrier, Norw. str., from Chefoo.
- 8, Hinsang, British str., from Samarang.
- 8, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Deo, British str., from San Francisco.
- 8, Oceana, German str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Rio, German str., from Singapore.
- 8, Saint Ninian, British str., from Foochow.
- 8, Arratoon Apear, British str., from C'cutta.
- 8, Caledonien, French str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 9, Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.
- 9, Tancred, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 9, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
- 9, Lombard, British str., from Otaru.
- 9, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
- 9, Peacock, British gunboat, from Yokohama.
- 9, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
- 9, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
- 9, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.

## November— DEPARTURES.

- 4, Progress, German str., for Haiphong.
- 4, Krim, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 4, Tancred, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 4, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
- 4, Australian, British str., for Australia.
- 4, Thames, British str., for Europe.
- 4, Pingching, Chinese cruiser, for Amoy.
- 4, Glenartney, British str., for Singapore.
- 4, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
- 4, Sinkai, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
- 4, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
- 5, H. Rickmers, German str., for Bangkok.
- 5, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Frejr, Danish str., for Tounon.
- 5, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 5, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Loksang, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
- 5, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 5, Taiwan, British str., for Kobe.
- 5, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 6, Picciola, German str., for Kobe.
- 6, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 6, Thekla, German str., for Yokohama.
- 6, Activ, Danish str., for Hongay.
- 6, Cromarty, British str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Fooksang, British str., for Amoy.
- 6, Hanoi, French str., for Pakhoi.
- 6, Loongmoon, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Monmouthshire, British str., for Saigon.
- 7, China, German str., for Saigon.
- 7, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 7, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
- 7, Pyrrhus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Sullberg, German str., for N'chwang.

- 7, Telena, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
- 8, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Humber, British storeship, for Shanghai.
- 8, Airlie, British str., for Kobe.
- 8, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Cosmopolit, Ger. str., for Newchwang.
- 8, Hermes, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 8, Teenkai, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Vale of Doon, British bark, for Hoihow.
- 9, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
- 9, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.
- 9, Deucalion, British str., for Kudat.
- 9, Ousang, British str., for Kobe.
- 9, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
- 9, Pronto, German str., for Chefoo.
- 9, Rio, German str., for Amoy.
- 9, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
- 9, St. Ninian, Br. str., for New York.
- 9, Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Airlie*, from Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Fulford, Mrs. Roland Pope, Mrs. F. Shul, Miss Ellis, Messrs. A. Fisher, J. Wright, R. Rundle, E. Potts, E. J. Farrens, P. Ambler, J. Falls, H. Barrell, Padre R. M. Carvalho, Padre A. P. de Costa, Lieut. J. de Silva, A. C. de Silva, F. P. de Sousa, Mr. and Mrs. dos Santos and five children, Madre S. de Jesus, A. Castanpero and Manuel Alfonso.

Per *Teenkai*, from London, &c., Mr. Blondin.

Per *Pyrrhus*, from Liverpool, &c., Mr. Korezki.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. T. Weir and Rylander.

Per *Nanyang*, from Coast Ports, Miss Wolfe, Messrs. Low, Hagen and Chow.

Per *Palinurus*, from Singapore, 377 Chinese.

Per *Keongwai*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. H. G. Ellis.

Per *Hohenzollern*, from Nagasaki, Messrs. F. Stoop, A. Biechse, Rev. and Mrs. Tyng, Miss M. Tyng, Miss R. Tyng, Mr. D. Tyng, Mr. M. A. Tyng, Miss A. M. True, Miss Christoffel, Miss H. M. Jones, Mr. G. Stoop, Dr. and Mrs. Travers and children, Messrs. Blumer, Reinhart, Dr. Koslowsky, Mr. Gusasoff, Miss Simson.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Ladds, Mr. Luiz Maria de Carvalho, from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Trevoux, Mr. and Mrs. d'Alpani de Casquiers and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Nichols, Miss F. Garret, Mr. Barment, Mr. and Mrs. Huet and 4 children; from Singapore, Mr. A. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Cartan Lee, Messrs. D. G. Gray, Robt. Riddoch, Low Kun Hee, Wong Hoo Chun, Chun Lee, Miss M. Can, Messrs. Moh Soon, Lye Fook, Wee Guan Choon, and Henri Hay; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Mr. Lecombe and Mr. Wong; from Colombo, Messrs. Watson Mackenzie, Depasse, Kolessow, Kierneff, Avice, Gilot, Albert, Fenardent, and E. Clark; for Kobe from Marseilles, Messrs. V. Kahaoka, Kirose, Sumitomo, Yoshida, and Muramatsu; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Messrs. Heringfet Szapa, Kisi ivo, and Melamilias; from Colombo, Mr. W. Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. Takayama, Messrs. Kagas Ariga, Schneider, Andre Bellessou, and Mrs. Bellessou; from Singapore, Messrs. Wee Guan Choon, F. B. Vay Holy, Capt. Blakway, R.E., Mr. Kiraoka, Sisters de Guibert, Protal, Belfond, Rosevusin, and Orseille, and Mr. Bonnet; from Saigon, Miss Chamberland, Messrs. Marquis and Gambert.

Per *Oceana*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Holz, Mr. and Mrs. Sewert and 2 children.

Per *Sachsen*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Messrs. Reussen, Wegner, Daub, Spitzer, Fest, Hanssen, Schall, Meyer, Fager, Griese, Schwilp, Lundberg, Meyer, Fedoroff, Sutcliffe, Hesford, Rasmussen, van den Brock, Lauritsen, Gronkowski, Plambeck and family, Willet and family, Foucar and family, Prof. and Mrs. Grube, Mr. and Mrs. Vale, Misses dos Santos, Naers, Rarlmann, Towe and Britton and Capt. Olsen.

Per *Terrier*, from Chefoo, Mr. Doberke.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Bret, Mrs. Aitken, Mrs. Drury,

Messrs. Farbridge, Tyack, Cumming, Bell, Sunnings (2), Stewart, Mann, McClure, Wallace (2), and Moller.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. A. P. Hotaling, Miss Minnie Hennessey, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Keer and infant, Mr. R. S. Philpotts, Mrs. A. Javarani, Miss Helen Wallace, Messrs. Ygnacio Sam San, Theoph. Wyss, and Bruno Menecke, Miss Reckett, Messrs. P. B. Reckett, Geo. P. Hamlin, and C. W. May, Miss Litchewberg, Messrs. E. A. Probst and Fred. C. Hotaling, Dr. and Mrs. Jas. M. Howie, Mr. J. Gregory, Mrs. O. Leslie, Messrs. Manuel Mak Zam, Wo Pang Nin, Chas. N. Niblett, F. Stuart-Jones, H. J. Reckett, Mrs. and Miss Waters, The Misses Hamlin (2), Dr. Norris, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Capon, Mr. C. W. Wrightson, and Capt. J. Farrow.

Per *Arratoon Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Capt. Radcliffe, Mr. T. Kyoma, and Mrs. Wynter.

Per *Caledonien*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. R. Lippmann, Mrs. Burton, Miss Clark, Messrs. Rob. Anger, J. Francis, W. Taylor, Capt. Price, Mrs. Cooper, Messrs. G. R. Smith and Adelino Diniz, Rev. Taverno, Messrs. Beaublat, P. Guéna, R. Journd, G. Hirabayoshi, J. d'Aguino, Alfred Muller, W. Mullen, G. Ping, Miss L. Rowe, Messrs. Kwong Yu Sang, Leger, Loo Long Chow, T. Itsugo, S. Tanaka, Miss E. Sylva, and Mr. F. Sylva; for Saigon, Messrs. Mignonnet and Jegut, Mr. and Mrs. Torche and infant, Mr. T. Nakamura, Mrs. M. Nishida, Miss Otoky; for Singapore, Mr. G. Wiseman, Mrs. Ito, Mrs. Konishi, Capt. L. Carey, Messrs. Martin, Nakagawa, J. Akiya, and N. Lazarus; for Batavia, Mr. M. Mikkers; for Colombo, Messrs. J. Campbell and Wood; for Aden, Mr. Platten; for Snez, Mr. L. Perret; for Port Said, Mr. M. Benzaken; for Marseilles, Messrs. Benqué, On Tai Tchong, Miss Pyry, Messrs. Schan, Kerbuel, Van Grot, Rev. D. Smith, Miss Rosa, Messrs. Springard, Tcheong Sion Tsin, Lou Siou Weng, Collin, Kerdalline, Ch. Koike, S. Takahashi, Kopiki, Miss E. Jubin, Mr. and Mrs. Falshy, Messrs. Kerneis, J. Haas, Mrs. Ochardine, Mrs. H. Yokoyama, Miss E. Downes, Sister Lily Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. Bentink.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Thames*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Misses Martin and Weinberg; for Bombay, Lieut.-Col. Faithfull, Messrs. D. F. Tamboli and D. A. Esmalji; for Brindisi, Mr. C. Thorne; for Sydney, Mr. F. W. Amsinck; for London, Miss Tindal, Mrs. Faithfull, Mr. Pattman, Dr. and Mrs. Munro, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Denison, Mr. and Mrs. C. Whitney, Messrs. B. H. Beazley and Ch. Tricker, and Miss Pycroft; from Yokohama for Singapore, Mr. G. H. Rollison, and Mrs. Maxwell; for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Jenkins and child; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. R. Newman; for London, Miss R. Marshall; from Kobe for Venice, Mr. Chas. Chesley, and Miss F. Twitchell; from Nagasaki for Singapore, Mrs. Hatsu Mori, and Miss T. Murase; from Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. W. R. Hodder, R.N.; for Brindisi, Messrs. F. Storey and C. Storey; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Belcher and child; from Shanghai for London, via Bombay, Mr. H. D. Hutchinson.

Per *Australian*, for Sydney, &c., Mrs. and Miss Cox, Messrs. S. Halifax and Playfair, Mrs. Helms, Mrs. Kortum and 3 children, Mr. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Waldron, Mr. and Mrs. Bushby and child, Miss M. E. Booth, Mrs. E. Radford and 3 children.

Per *Haimun*, for Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. Groesbeck, Messrs. Chan Tin Shan and Ip Chung Woon; for Amoy, Mr. Bowers; for Foochow, Messrs. Scott and E. H. Fraser.

Per *Hanoi* for Haiphong, Capt. C. N. Numford.

Per *Loongmoon*, for Shanghai, Mrs. R. Day, Messrs. H. J. Barneit, John Falls, E. J. Tarrent, and P. Vambler.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Fulford, Miss E. Everest, Mrs. Rowland Pope, Messrs. H. B. Everest, Maibel, and A. M. Marshall; for Kobe, Mr. J. S. Wright; for Yokohama, Mrs. Gherl, Capt. A. Gillet, Messrs. A. E. Fisher and Boolchand.

Per *Airlie*, for Kobe, Miss Ellis.

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